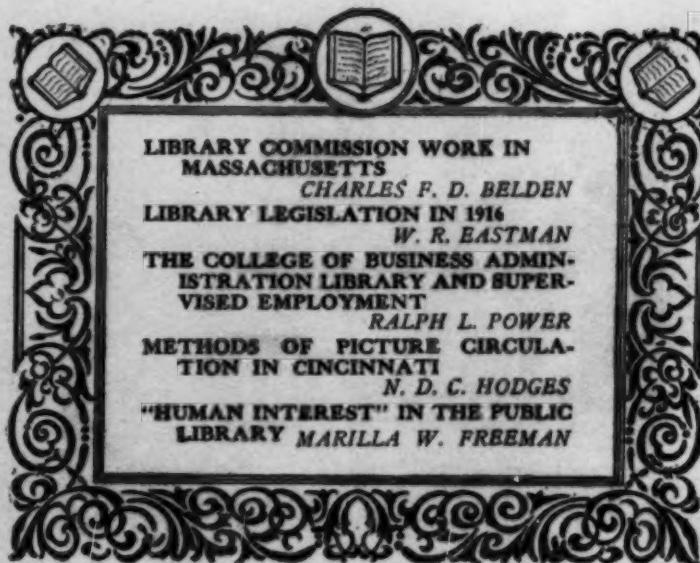


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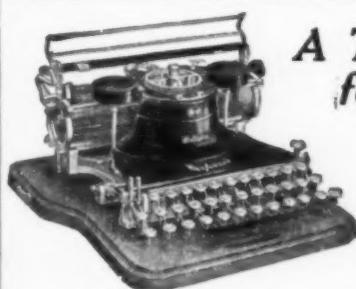
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 42

JANUARY, 1917

No. 1

THE library year 1916 was not notable for salient features in America, except for the fact that the A. L. A. conference at Asbury Park celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the American Library Association with a banner attendance of 1386 (of whom over a thousand were women) from forty-one states, the District of Columbia and several Canadian provinces, besides individual attendants from England, Norway, Sweden, Finland and China. All the states were represented except Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. As Idaho had organized at the close of 1915 the forty-second state association, the absence of any representative was especially to be regretted. The immediate sequence of the National Education Association conference at New York induced many librarians to attend these meetings, one section being given over altogether to library matters. Aside from the regular interstate meetings, as at Atlantic City, or the large state meetings, as that of New York at Richfield Springs, the most noteworthy gathering, other than national, was the "congress" of librarians at Tower Hill, Wisconsin, the especial feature of which was the absence of all set speeches and the inspiration derived from free discussion of the larger things of library science and economy. An important new development was the summer conference of Massachusetts town libraries called together at Simmons College under the auspices of the Massachusetts Library Commission, which arranged accommodations for those in attendance and provided the program. The "Better Community" conference at the University of Illinois, included "The development of libraries" as one of its topics. Perhaps the most striking

event was the opening of a popular library campaign in North Carolina, which has as its slogan, "A Library in Every Town by 1920." There is evidence of an increasing appreciation of library schools and summer classes. Ohio State University proposes to open a library school in the summer of 1917, Texas has one in plan at its state university, and Colorado plans for successive annual summer courses in the four state educational institutions.

ELSEWHERE the world war and the world woe checked general library development, but the war was the occasion for a new departure in "camps libraries" for the English soldiers and in traveling libraries for the German soldiers at the front. Despite the war, Leipzig completed and opened the main section of the Bücherei, the great building in which the book production of all Germany and of German-speaking people is to be preserved for all time—an imperial enterprise destined for even larger function than the Royal Library at Berlin. Stricken Belgium was not forgotten by her sister nations; the John Rylands Library at Manchester became the center for a movement to replace at the close of the war the Library of Louvain, ruthlessly destroyed in the first German onslaught, and the Belgian Scholarship Committee set on foot a plan to collect books in America for stocking other Belgian libraries when peace comes. Russia, under the library leadership of Madame Haffkin-Hamburger, developed the Russian Library Association at Moscow, but the absence of periodicals from that country and from Germany in recent months, has prevented full knowledge of what has been going on in these war countries. Mr. Seng, after graduating

from the Library School of the New York Public Library, returned from the Asbury Park conference to his native country of China with the purpose of promoting amongst his people the library development of which Boone College Library will be honored as the ancestor. The recent work of Asa Don Dickinson in Lahore, India, as well as the earlier work of W. A. Borden in Baroda, promises to continue fruitfully, despite the return of those American missionaries. In Latin America, Señor Rojas, National Librarian of Mexico, contributed happily toward keeping the peace between our two nations, while in Argentina the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace presented a library of 10,000 volumes on the United States to the Museo Social Argentino in Buenos Aires. This forethought on the part of libraries and librarians for the future peace of the world is a happy omen.

DEATH has had sad and rich harvest in the American library world this 1916 in a heavier toll than has been gathered from us in many years. The life and work of Mary Wright Plummer, the retiring president of the American Library Association, recognized as first among American women librarians, were fitly commemorated at the remarkable memorial meeting held in November. The death of William Ives of Buffalo, in his hundredth year, removed the oldest attendant at the initial conference of 1876. Philadelphia and the library profession lost a loved and honored veteran in Dr. John Thomson, while Yale lost in Prof. John C. Schwab a man who had come in recent years from a professorial chair to make his mark in the profession. In both instances the places they left vacant were filled by promotion of the men who had been at their right hand—John Ashurst at Philadelphia and Andrew Keogh at New Haven. Dr. E. W. Mundy of Syracuse, Henrietta Brooks of Wellesley College, Martha T. Wheeler and Florence Whittier

were among the others added to the long roll. Harriet L. Matthews of Lynn, a member of the conference of 1876 and a loyal attendant at many later library gatherings, was relieved from duty at the Lynn Library, because of ill health, and Byron A. Finney, for twenty-five years reference librarian at Michigan University, retired to enjoy a Carnegie pension, happily in continuing health. As to appointments, we may only note that Theodore W. Koch, recovered from his long illness, has become the head of the order department of the Library of Congress; that C. Seymour Thompson has become the librarian of the Savannah Public Library; that Mary E. Robbins has become associate director of the Carnegie Library School at Atlanta; that Hector Garneau has been appointed librarian of the Montreal Public Library, not yet in operation; and that W. O. Carson has succeeded Walter R. Nursey, retiring because of ill health, as library inspector in Ontario.

LIBRARY building has been somewhat checked by the increased cost both of material and labor. Brooklyn is at a standstill because its estimate and appropriation of last year failed to cover the present high cost, while Detroit, where a bond issue of \$750,000 has been provided for, has found that prices for its steel construction have doubled in the two years' delay. But many building enterprises have made progress, offset by almost no library fires, except the explosion and conflagration in the splendid Parliament House in Ottawa, involving the Parliament Library. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that much attention is being given to the subject of fires and fire prevention in libraries by the A. L. A. committee on that subject, which has become alert to its opportunity. San Francisco and Indianapolis last spring laid the cornerstones of million-dollar library buildings, as part of their civic centers, and Cleveland has accepted on open competition plans of local architects for its central

building, besides providing for three new Carnegie branches. A notable advance is marked in the South. Savannah and Vicksburg have opened new library edifices, and Knoxville has erected a public library building for the Lawson-McGhee Memorial Library. Exceptional progress was made also in college libraries. The Massachusetts "Tech" consolidated its several special libraries into one general library, in its new group of buildings; the Johns Hopkins libraries have been moved into the special library building, Gilman Hall, which constitutes the central feature in its new home; Amherst has well under way the \$250,000 building given by Edmund C. Converse of New York; Princeton, Wellesley, and the University of Michigan have extended and modified their existing buildings, the University of Notre Dame has a new library building started, and Leland Stanford University is planning for a half-million dollar library. The Memorial Library in honor of ex-President Hayes was opened at Fremont, Ohio. Sacramento has begun work on its Carnegie Central Library. Boston is building the extension for its Public Library, and St. Paul is occupying the lower part of the J. J. Hill Library building, yet uncompleted. The notable event of the year, however, has been the systematized plan of development put forward by Chicago at the close of 1916, as reported elsewhere in this number, by which the Central Library is ultimately to be supplemented by five regional branches, a new development in municipal libraries, each one a center for branch libraries and other library stations in proportion to Chicago's expected growth.

LIBRARY journalism has received an addition in *Biblioteksbladet* of Sweden, but most of the continental library periodicals have failed to reach America this year and some seem to have been suspended. In bibliography, the most noteworthy new arrival is the "Index to periodicals" pre-

pared by the London *Athenaeum*, covering in the initial volume over 400 English, American, and Continental periodicals of 1915. The "Cumulative book index" has been somewhat extended in scope and has been placed on the Wilson sliding-scale-price service plan; the Wilson "Catalog of books for children" has been re-issued in enlarged form, and the "Agricultural index" has been started, with five issues for the year. The "Official index to state legislation," initiated thru the efforts of the A. L. A. committee on public documents, has passed from a tentative into an experimental year, and tho not directly bibliographical, should reach and obtain the support of a large number of libraries. An important contribution to state bibliography has been made in Swem's "Bibliography of Virginia" issued in a 750-page volume by the Virginia State Library. Library literature in general is becoming so voluminous that it is no longer feasible to schedule individual books in our brief yearly summary, but Bailey's book on "Library bookbinding," which should become a standard help, may at least be cited.

THE legislation of 1916 is summarized, as usual, by the capable hand of William R. Eastman on other pages, a revision of his paper at the Richfield Springs meeting. The Stephens bill in modification of the Sherman Anti-Trust bill excited some fear lest its effect should be to increase the price of books to libraries, but the A. L. A. committee secured an exception specifically exempting libraries, and the bill is unlikely to pass Congress at the short session. The British interference with neutral mails has been a serious detriment to library interests, in stopping periodicals as well as books, and this subject is receiving the continuing attention of the A. L. A. committee in consultation with the Librarian of Congress, both having the support of the British Embassy in the endeavor to arrange a satisfactory method of adjustment.

A representative of the Library of Congress, who goes abroad for the purchase of foreign books, will incidentally co-operate, if opportunity permits, in facilitating the labors of the committee. Canadian libraries have suffered the same difficulty with importations as American libraries, and it is to be hoped that the arrangements of the A. L. A. committee may help in the solution of their problems likewise. That it is difficult in the midst of the heroic sacrifices and the awful sorrows of this war to hold an even hand, appreciating the national point of view and sympathizing with the sad losses, and yet criticizing from the neutral outlook mistakes of the belligerents or violations of neutral rights, is shown by some misunderstanding in Canada of our criticisms of the British interference with importations and mails. Nothing has been nobler in this war than Canada's splendid devotion to the mother country, in the battles three thousand miles away, and on this side of the border Americans grudge no meed of praise for this large loyalty which spares neither blood nor treasure.

THE sad feature of the past year in America was the prevalence of infantile paralysis, which incidentally caused a suspension of children's library service in some places. The children's rooms in New York reopened September 25th, simultaneously with the deferred opening of the schools, after a closure of nearly three months because of the epidemic of infantile paralysis. For all that time the children of New York were denied access to well-ventilated and cheerful library rooms as well as to playgrounds, and in thousands of cases relegated to the streets or the sad tenements. The Children's Museum in Brooklyn, with its library, was meantime freely used by the small people, and not a single case of conveyance of the disease has been traced in this connection. The best health authorities confess that com-

paratively little is yet known as to this plague, which is not new but has a new emphasis under a new name. It is generally conceded that books are not a carrier of the infection, and the treatment of books by formaldehyde or other fumigation is now regarded with much scepticism by physicians. The denial of library privileges called forth pathetic and amusing instances in happy proof of the appreciation by children of their modern privileges. One little chap brought to a children's librarian in New York a big bouquet from the children in token that tho the library room was closed against them they had not forgotten the library.

THE roster of Carnegie benefactions for 1916 is not yet made up, but one discouraging feature in regard to them has been increasingly evident during the year. Cases have developed from time to time in which the contract on which Carnegie library gifts have been based, is disregarded by municipal or institutional authorities. The essence of the usual Carnegie contract is that money will be given for a library building on condition that a site and books should be provided and 10 per cent. of the amount given should be appropriated annually for the support of the library by the municipality or the institution. In one or two Southern states, so many municipalities have defaulted on the contract that future grants will be made in those states only with great hesitation and under special assurances as to fulfillment of contract. There may be, of course, cases in which a municipality is too poor to fulfill the conditions, which means that it actually faces bankruptcy, and it is hard to say how such cases can be reached. They must inevitably, however, have the effect of limiting Carnegie grants in their vicinage and perhaps will be useful as hints to aspiring communities not to receive a Carnegie library building until they are really ready to form and support a library.

LIBRARY COMMISSION WORK IN MASSACHUSETTS*

BY CHARLES F. D. BELDEN, *State Librarian and Chairman of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts*

BEFORE speaking of the current phases of Free Public Library Commission work in Massachusetts and practical methods used in strengthening the relation between the library and the community, I wish to outline existing library conditions. Certain conditions peculiar to the Bay State modify and explain the policy of the Board of Library Commissioners. They account for some things done and some things left undone. Incidentally, I submit, a careful survey of conditions in the several states would show the unwisdom of an attempt to standardize commission work thruout the country. I believe this to be equally true of other lines of library endeavor.

Massachusetts is the Commonwealth of the ubiquitous library. While its area is less than one-sixth that of New York, its density of population is 418 to the square mile, compared to 191 in the Empire State. All sections of Massachusetts are well served by railways, trolleys and state highways. The out-of-the-way settlements are negligible. From the 1915 Library Commission returns there were found to be 408 free public libraries in the 354 cities and towns. These 408 libraries maintain 6081 branches and deposits. The free public libraries of the Commonwealth house over six and one-half million volumes. If the public libraries were evenly distributed there would be a main library to every twenty square miles; branches and deposits would be in sight of each other, if not in hailing distance; to be exact, one and twenty-seven hundredths miles apart.

Anyone at all conversant with the growth of library commission work in Massachusetts is aware that it was carried forward for many years with but little state aid. From the start the commission enlisted individuals, clubs and organizations in its problems. In short, it sought co-operation. From a small beginning co-operation has

been developed, strengthened, organized and systematized, so that to-day it is the keystone in all the undertakings of the commission. Organized co-operation is at present realized by five agencies, namely: advisory visitors; local secretaries; supervising librarians; the committee on co-operation between the Massachusetts Library Club, the Free Public Library Commission, and the six smaller library clubs of the state; and finally, the library clubs.

The Massachusetts Library Commission has at present thirty-five advisory visitors, who constitute a group of distinguished citizens. Some are leaders in the professions which they represent; others are prominent because of public service rendered or their interest in the promotion of live, efficient libraries. Many of the visitors possess fortunes and automobiles—both, you will admit, of practical value in furthering the work between the small library and the community. They live in various sections of the state, and at their convenience or at the request of the commission have frequently visited small libraries in their vicinity, have become the friends and confidants of librarians and trustees (in fact certain library trustees have their place among the number of visitors), have taken observations, made inquiries as to wants, and reported to the Library Commission. These reports and the reports made by the staff of the commission are of the greatest value in enabling the commission to keep in touch with the libraries thruout the state, to give attention to urgent needs, and to know that follow-up work has been done and results accomplished. The advisory visitors serve as a human, sympathetic bond between the small libraries of the state and the Library Commission.

Local secretaries to the number of 44 have charge of as many library groups. The secretaries are almost all librarians, with blue ribbon achievements to their

*Address before the New York Library Club, Oct. 26, 1916.

credit. They gladly consent to look after, help and advise the other libraries in their group, including from three to twenty libraries. During the year their activities have been marked and varied. It is not possible to measure all the results, but the following have been noted. There has been mutual visiting by the librarian and trustees among the libraries of a group and the holding of informal meetings at which were discussed subjects of common moment. There has been mutual assistance in solving library problems, where the smaller libraries of the group have looked to the larger library for advice. In some cases the larger library has given personal help either thru the librarian or an assistant. Increased membership and attendance at library club gatherings have been among the satisfactory results occasioned by group meetings. By the most informal and friendly of methods, greater efficiency has been effected in many of the small libraries. I wish I might read you the enthusiastic letters from the local secretaries received by the chairman of the committee on co-operation. Almost without exception they speak of this informal work as being much needed and that it is proving invaluable. Several groups hold bi-monthly meetings, others have arranged a system of exchange of library periodicals and the more expensive books. One of the larger libraries invites the trustees and librarian of the smaller libraries to visit it and inspect the books received on approval for a period of a week once each month. The letters are full of happy suggestions which are of aid in extending this useful work. The Beverly Public Library sent out the following notice to librarians and trustees of several groups in Essex county: "It is proposed by the Free Public Library Commission of the state that the trustees and librarians living within certain limits should form a group or club for the discussion and interchange of experience in order to increase the usefulness of their libraries. The trustees and librarian of the Beverly Public Library request the pleasure of your company at their library at Beverly on Friday afternoon, June 25th, at four o'clock, to consider plans and to

take a cup of tea. Kindly answer to Miss Katharine P. Loring, Prides Crossing, Massachusetts." Miss Loring's interest in library work is indicated by the fact that she is serving as an advisory visitor, a trustee, a local secretary and as President of the Massachusetts Library Club. She is more than fulfilling all her opportunities. It is to such devoted friends that the commission owes the most generous share of its present breadth of service; and its future development will be none the less dependent on similar assistance, even tho the state supplies increased appropriations for certain necessary expenses.

The committee on co-operation between the Massachusetts Library Club, the Free Public Library Commission and the smaller library clubs of the state, is directly responsible for the organization and work of the local secretaries. It was appointed in 1912, and the head of the Library Commission has the honor of being its chairman. The committee consists of a dozen prominent librarians and trustees, and is ready at all times to serve the various committees in meeting library problems. The committee seconds the efforts of the commission in advocating open shelves, lower age limits for borrowers, several books to a reader, school deposits, etc. When necessary, it is able to arrange for speakers and directors of round table conferences to be held at group meetings, as well as to provide for instruction in the mending of books. It is hoped that the committee may assist in solving the problem of the overcrowded library shelves which are found in so many of the small libraries. The committee can be of service in weeding out and destroying the unused books or else by placing this nearly dead material in some roomier library where, as occasion arises, it can be consulted. The committee acts as a publicity agent in the library field, in which it has exceptional opportunity.

The relation between the Library Commission and the library clubs of the state is close. The commission stands ready to lend a helping hand in forwarding any new work of promise undertaken by a club. On the other hand the commission has al-

ways found the state club and the smaller clubs ready to give help and sympathy to its requests. The Western Massachusetts Library Club has had the co-operation of the commission in bringing schools and libraries into closer relationship. The club has prepared an "Outline for an hour's exercise on how to use the library: to be taken up by the librarian with the children of the highest grammar grades." The commission has paid for the services of trained librarians to instruct school children in the purposes of the library, the value of reference books, the use of the printed or card catalog and other educational tools. Some of the small library clubs have no membership dues and the commission can therefore be of service in arranging programs, providing speakers, etc.

One of the difficult problems of the commission has been that of aiding those small libraries unable to employ a trained librarian. Educational influence and plans for social betterment in a community can be attained thru the library only where up-to-date methods of organization and administration are followed. It is obvious that the one agent of the commission cannot give the direct and constant service necessary to obtain progressive and lasting results. Three years ago the commission recommended a system similar to that carried on by district school superintendents. A trained and wholly competent librarian, called a "supervising librarian," is engaged to oversee the activities of librarians in a given neighborhood, expenses being met by the interested libraries or the commission or, occasionally, by both. The experiment is now being tested in Massachusetts by three such supervising librarians. They work with full approval and in harmony with the boards of trustees, carry on library publicity work with teachers and pupils, clubs, societies, churches, and seek to bring about closer co-operation between the libraries under their direction. Their efforts outside the library are stressed quite as much and sometimes more than those inside, and are, of course, equally if not the more important in the community of the small library. In short, it is hoped that the supervising librarian will supply the needed leaven in making the library of

greater usefulness. If the scheme can be placed on a practical basis, there is no reason why the number of supervising librarians should not be increased so that all sections of the state will be covered, and a noticeable upbuilding of library interests and work be felt. The commission predicts a large measure of success for the supervising librarians.

Of course, it would be an exaggeration to say that the Library Commission does not do anything that it can get some one else to do. There is, nevertheless, a good deal of truth in the statement. To illustrate: the library committee of the Woman's Education Association in 1915-16 sent traveling libraries to 122 towns. Twelve foreign traveling libraries have been in circulation in addition to 80 regular, 28 special and 4 Audubon libraries. The Library Art Club, founded in 1898, whose membership is open to the libraries of the state, sent 123 sets of pictures to 63 libraries for exhibition or to be loaned by the library for outside purposes. Collections of pictures and art books from the Boston and Worcester Art Museum Libraries are loaned on request to the public libraries of the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Agricultural College will send appropriate traveling libraries for farmers thruout the state. In Berkshire county, Williams College and the Pittsfield Athenaeum will lend freely from their collections. The Forbes Library at Northampton, with its wealth of books, does not confine its willingness to lend a book or books to libraries in the state but aids libraries small and large in adjoining states. The General Theological Library in Boston will send not only religious books but all good books of non-fiction to ministers of any denomination and pay transportation both ways.

The Perkins Institute and the city libraries loan books on request for the blind. The university libraries of the Commonwealth gladly loan the *unusual* volume on inter-library account, while recent legislation permits not only any free public library to lend its books to any other free public library, but permits a non-resident to borrow books from a library in an adjoining city or town.

If it is impossible for a borrower to ob-

tain the desired *serious* book thru inter-library exchange, the Library Commission will purchase and lend such book. The commission, moreover, will provide for small libraries when necessary, the books used in the university extension courses given under the direction of the Board of Education. The Board of Education, by the way, is deeply concerned in the matter of co-operation between the library and the school. The commissioner of education sent a personal letter to all school superintendents in the Commonwealth asking their immediate and hearty support of the work of the commission. When teachers or superintendents were found to be recalcitrant, more compelling letters were forthcoming from the proper authorities.

The wealth of information in the State Library of Massachusetts, a highly specialized legislative and historical collection, is available, so far as practicable, to all the inhabitants of the Commonwealth.

This year the Library Commission was authorized by act of the legislature to give direct aid to libraries in towns whose valuation does not exceed \$1,000,000. For many years direct aid was limited to towns whose valuation was under \$600,000. The direct aid to which I refer includes, to quote from the statute, "the furnishing of books in small quantities, visits to libraries, the instruction of librarians, and such other means of encouraging and stimulating the small libraries as said commissioners shall deem advisable," and is now available for 100 libraries. Such aid is given either as a reward for good work accomplished or because of the promise to better in some way the library work in the community.

A brief study of these 100 libraries with untrained librarians will suggest to you the need of "direct aid." The total yearly income

In	5	libraries	is	between	\$1000	and	\$5000
"	14	"	"	"	\$500	"	\$1000
"	23	"	"	"	\$200	"	\$500
"	21	"	"	"	\$100	"	\$200
"	29	"	"	"	\$25	"	\$100
"	8	"	"	"	\$25	or less	

One town possesses five separate libraries with an income of \$5 a year each to meet all expenses.

In these 100 towns the salary of

13	librarians	is	between	\$2	and	\$4	a week
22	"	"	"	\$1	"	\$2	"
23	"	"	"	50c.	"	\$1	"
33	"	"	"	less than	50c.	a week.	

Six serve without any recompense save the joy and satisfaction that comes from service to a cause dear to their hearts. One librarian receives approximately \$7, another \$10 a week; the two munificently paid librarians in the group serving as administrators in endowed institutions. Parenthetically, I would state that more than half the librarians in the Commonwealth receive less than \$2 a week. Still the supply outruns the demand. Of course it should be borne in mind that most of the small libraries are open but one or two afternoons and evenings a week.

Tribute should be made to the sacrificing spirit of the majority of these untrained librarians. They possess the virtues of humility, graciousness and common-sense. Their influence is unbounded in strengthening the spirit of the community, that new spirit whose culture is measured not in the terms of a 42-centimeter Krupp gun, but in those of sweetness and light, service of the individual for the individual, that new spirit which is to chasten and safeguard the future of American hearthstones!

Thus far I have emphasized the work of the commission with the small library. It should be remembered, however, that the commission on request has always given whatever aid was possible to the larger libraries. This aid has consisted of help in the choice of books, advice in reorganization, and the general problems of administration. During the past year the trustees of some of the good sized libraries have asked the commission to make a survey of their library and report ways and means in which the library could be strengthened and made of greater value to the community at large. Some excellent results have been noted where the recommendations, made thru the field agent of the commission, have been acted upon by boards of trustees and the librarians.

In 1914 the commission was authorized to appoint a director of educational work

for aliens, "at a salary of such amount, not exceeding \$2000, as the Governor and Council may approve." No appropriation was made, or indeed asked for, to carry on the work of such a director. A trained and most efficient woman was engaged at a salary somewhat larger than that authorized, the difference coming from an outside source in appreciation of the commission's work in the Commonwealth.

In starting the campaign for work with the foreign-speaking population, a survey was made of the state and a report received from every library stating just what foreign nationalities resided in the town and what the library was doing for them. Conferences were then held in several of the large centers with the leaders of the different nationalities to find out what more the libraries could do for them, and in most cases their suggestions were acted upon.

To stimulate the interest of the libraries, the commission prepared small collections of books in the needed languages and loaned them to those libraries having no books in foreign languages, and to even the larger libraries having books in some languages, but not always those for which there was a demand. In some cases such collections were loaned in one language on condition that the library purchase books in another, in order to allay the fears of the librarian as to what might happen if the library offered assistance to one nationality and could not supply help for all. The commission now has 123 traveling libraries in the hands of libraries all over the state in the following languages: Armenian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, and Yiddish.

To arouse the interest of the foreign-speaking people in libraries and other educational opportunities open to them in this country, the commission with the financial assistance of the Old South Association, has sent speakers to address their own nationalities in Greek, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish and to advise them to take advantage of such opportunities. Fifty-two addresses have been given to audiences varying from twenty-five to four hundred and fifty.

Lists of foreign books are constantly being made to meet the needs of specific libraries and have varied from a few titles to long lists of books recommended for purchase. These requests have come from all over the country and have been difficult to make owing to the impossibility of getting books in many languages because of the war. Such lists in 14 languages have been sent out.

The commission has just finished and given to the A. L. A. Publishing Board for its series of foreign booklists an annotated and transliterated Russian list of five hundred titles. The need of annotated lists, especially in languages using a different alphabet from ours, is very evident, so a similar list for modern Greek books has been started.

Among the possibilities of commission work with aliens in the immediate future may be mentioned:

a. More addresses and lectures in foreign languages.

b. Co-operation with evening school work and fostering their establishment in the smaller towns where they are not now required by law.

c. Interesting the Parent-Teachers Associations in entertaining foreign-speaking parents in their social affairs, using the library as a social center whenever possible.

d. Thru the cordial relations which have now been established with many nationalities, get their assistance in having more and better books about this country published by their presses.

e. Trying to interest the Women's Clubs and Civic Societies in providing material on home-making, cooking, etc., in foreign languages.

f. Encouraging the Department of Agriculture and Granges to realize the need for information in foreign languages along their lines of endeavor.

g. Inducing foreign nationalities to co-operate, and, when possible, to offer financial assistance to their local libraries in building up foreign book collections.

Interesting and detailed accounts of the Director's work may be found in the annual reports of the commission.

Two new experiments have been made by the commission this past summer. The field agent has been in charge of a library booth at state fairs where exhibits have been made of agricultural books, books for children, for foreigners, for schools. Posters and pictures relating to library activities in the state added to the attractiveness of the exhibit. Opportunity was found to give out various reading lists, to introduce new patrons, native and foreign, to libraries thru the means of borrowers' cards, to talk with interested persons about books and the home library. The reports coming from this new venture would seem to warrant exhibits, personally conducted, at fairs another year.

The following signs advertised the agent's wares:—

**The Free Public Library Commission of
Massachusetts**

Good reading for every citizen

Nothing to Sell

These books show the standards of selection in public libraries. Out of the flood of bad and mediocre books, the few good ones can be found only by careful study and experience.

**The Free Public Library Commission of
Massachusetts**

gladly renders upon application this assistance to libraries and others interested.

Libraries Help Teachers

They help to plan the lesson,
They help apply the lesson,
They continue the application,
They furnish pictures, maps and books,
They furnish new ideas to the teachers,
They teach children when teacher is tired.

For New Americans

Books in your own language
If you do not read English easily perhaps you would like to read some books from home. Ask the Librarian in your community if the library will not get some books for you in your own language.

**The Free Public Library Commission of
Massachusetts**

lends collections of books like these to libraries.

During July a three days' conference, planned primarily for the librarians and trustees of the small libraries, was held at Simmons College, Boston. The college

authorities and the director of the Library School gave the commission their enthusiastic support. The meetings were held in the main college building, where lunches were served. Many of the visiting librarians were housed in the dormitories. A simple and practical program presented by experts was of the greatest help to the untrained country librarian. The number of 113 registered for the entire course. The largest number present at any one meeting was 186. On the last afternoon, opportunity was given for demonstration visits to nearby libraries. The Museum of Fine Arts, a neighbor of Simmons, extended its courtesies to the visitors during the days of the conference. The commission and its friends gave a dinner to their guests at the Women's City Club, where opportunity was given to meet the President of the Massachusetts Library Club and the librarian of the Boston Public Library. The commission invited the librarians of the small libraries of the state to attend the conference at its expense. This constituted the unique feature of the meeting.

What this opportunity meant to some may be surmised from the fact that one librarian had not been in Boston for twenty years, while another had not been out of her little hill-town in twelve years. Several in fact had never visited Boston.

Already from three sections of the Commonwealth the commission has been besought to plan other similar conferences. That they will be planned for, goes without saying since the experiment exceeded the fondest anticipation of the board of commissioners.

In various ways, some old and some new, and with the help of many agencies, the Free Public Library Commission forwards its work. Its aim is to promote the usefulness of libraries, extend their activities, bring people in touch with all educational resources, so that more and more the public library may become the open and rich treasure-house of the world's best thought, containing indispensable commodities for the young, the adult, and even the aged in a land that we all earnestly pray may never cease to be liberty loving.

LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN 1916

By W. R. EASTMAN

REPORTS have been received from the ten states in which legislative sessions have been held during the year 1916. Twenty propositions affecting libraries were offered and ten were adopted. Of these, New York adopted eight and Virginia, two. Six of the eight for New York were strictly local. Rhode Island and Mississippi considered but rejected important measures of library law. The ten bills which did not pass present subjects of general interest which is as great, if not greater than that of those which were placed on the statute book. They show the tendencies of library thinking and effort if not the achievements of the year.

APPROPRIATIONS

Reports indicate that appropriations for libraries and library service in the ten states were not materially changed from those of the preceding year.

In Virginia a special appropriation of \$4000 was made to furnish metal filing cases for such of the state archives as are under the control of the library board.

LIBRARY COMMISSION WORK

In Virginia, an attempt was made to secure the services of a library organizer to go about among the libraries of the state under the direction of the library board. The bill for this purpose failed by reason of a feeling that the state's financial condition did not warrant the necessary expenditure.

LIBRARY ESTABLISHMENT

A proposition was made in New York to authorize the creation of educational corporations under the Membership Corporation law in cases in which the consent of the Regents should be given. Under the present law the Regents have exclusive power, outside of the legislature, to charter an educational corporation. The proposition to change this was not adopted.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS

The charter of the village of Fredonia, New York, was amended to permit the

village to borrow money and issue bonds to the amount of \$25,000 to be used in erecting a new library building upon the lot now owned by the village and used for the Darwin R. Barker Library, provided that the consent of a majority of the taxpayers, representing a majority of the assessed property of the village, is first obtained.

In the village of Kings Park on Long Island, New York, the land commissioners are authorized to grant a certain piece of land, approximately 130 by 400 feet in extent, for the erection of a building thereon for the joint use of the free public library and the village fire department.

The charter of the city of Newburgh, New York, was amended so as to vest the title to school and library buildings in the city instead of, as formerly, in the board of education.

COUNTY LIBRARIES

A bill for county free libraries was introduced in the legislature of Mississippi but was not reported from the committee to which it was referred.

TAXATION

New York exempted from taxation all real estate owned by a free public library situate "outside of a city" the income from which is needed and used for the purposes of the library. Formerly, free libraries in villages of the third and fourth class were benefited by such exemption.

The proposition in the same state to exempt from tax all the property, both real and personal, of a public library free to the people, which failed in the previous legislature, was again offered and again failed.

A proposition, also in New York, to limit the tax levy for the support of a county library to the property of such towns in the county as are not otherwise taxed for public library purposes, was offered but failed.

The charter of the city of Johnstown, New York, was amended to provide that

while the city must continue under its agreement with Andrew Carnegie to pay \$2500 a year for the support of its public library, the common council of the city, including the Mayor, may by a two-thirds vote increase the amount of this payment in any year, but cannot decrease it.

The charter of the city of Rochester, New York, was amended to provide that the cost of maintaining the Public Library is to be included in the yearly estimate of city expenses and the amount estimated for the library must not be less than three one-hundredths of one per cent. of the total assessed value of all assessed property.

An amendment to the library law of Illinois, passed in 1915, but overlooked in the report on legislation of that year, increased the maximum tax levy for city libraries from one and two-tenths mills to two mills on the dollar and, in cities of over 100,000 population, from six-tenths of a mill to one mill. A clause was also added to the law to require library trustees to inform city councils in writing of the amount needed for running expenses of the library. Many cities are now levying the full two mill tax for their libraries.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

A bill to promote the efficiency of library service in public schools was introduced in the legislature of Rhode Island. This provided for the annual payment of \$300 to any city or town, the school committee of which should employ a school librarian or a librarian for each high school, the above amount to constitute one-half of the salary of each librarian so employed. Rules to govern this library service were to be made by the state board of education. It was made a condition of the proposed payment that, in each case, the library service should meet the approval of the state board and that the librarian employed should hold a certificate of qualification issued by that board.

The finance committee of the House gave a hearing on the bill but it remained on the files of that committee at the close of the session.

STATE LIBRARIES

The trustees of the Massachusetts State Library asked for the appointment of a

director of legislative reference but the request was not granted.

The board of the Virginia State Library was authorized to publish annually as a part of its report such special matter as it may deem of sufficient value from an historical standpoint not increasing the volume beyond 600 pages.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

In New York a bill was offered providing for the publication of a series of "New York Legislative Documents" to be prepared and indexed in the State Library and to carry serial numbers. This failed to pass.

Still another bill in New York, restating former provisions and generally providing for the distribution of documents by the State Library, was offered but not adopted.

LAW LIBRARIES

In New York, the law of 1915, creating a legislative library and placing it under direction of the clerks of the Senate and Assembly, was amended to give the direction to the "legislative librarian" and to provide that salaries be paid from money appropriated for compensation of officers and employees of the legislature.

By an amendment to the Education law of New York the Riverhead Law Library was made a law library for the second judicial district of the Supreme Court, its three trustees to be named by a Supreme Court justice residing in Suffolk county. It is to succeed to the books and library property of the Suffolk County Bar Association when conveyed by that association, and will be supported as a county charge by moneys raised for court expenses. The salary of the librarian is to be \$600.

CARE OF BOOKS

A bill was offered in New York to provide that any second-hand bookdealer who buys or receives a book belonging to a public, college or university library without ascertaining by diligent inquiry that the seller has a legal right to the book, shall be liable to fine or imprisonment. This provision corresponds with existing law for the protection of articles similarly taken from railroads and other public corporations, but as applied to library property it failed of enactment.

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION LIBRARY AND SUPERVISED EMPLOYMENT

BY RALPH L. POWER, *Librarian, Boston University College of Business Administration*

It is a difficult task for the business library to keep pace with the rapid growth of the business college. The College of Business Administration of Boston University, for instance, with its day and evening divisions, has developed from a school with an enrollment of 275 and a faculty of 25, to a school of nearly 1200 students and a faculty of about 200, including special lecturers. Statistics for the last school year show that this department of Boston University ranks second in the country in size. The tremendous demand for scientific training in business has resulted in the phenomenal advance of the college, and the college library must tax its capacity to the utmost to be prepared to meet the demand.

Courses in business administration here are both practical and theoretical—building up practice on theory. Students of the Evening Division must be employed by day during their course, the daily work being recorded and credited as a laboratory exercise. Day Division students, instead of spending their entire fourth year in class instruction, spend their senior year in supervised employment. During this year of supervised employment the student is placed in a position of the type in which he intends to specialize. Two evenings each week are spent in class instruction in the Evening Division, and varied and extensive reports are required from time to time.

Outlines and reports at considerable length must be submitted; one general report is written as part of the year's work to show how experience lines up with or verifies theoretical study; oral conferences with the instructors are part of the required program; in supervised employment the employer reports both orally and by written sheets on the progress of the men. During the year of supervised employment the men are obliged to depend greatly on the library in outlining their reports—both

oral and written—and to provide the material for these reports regarding the combination of theory and practice in each particular line, the library must develop extensively. In other words, the library must have at all times all practical as well as theoretical treatises—whether in book or other form—in various branches of business.

The training of the student includes not only technical studies, but cultural also; and to supply proper reading and reference material the library must include a broad selection of literature and delve fairly extensively in each particular branch. For example, if a man is a student of a special industry he must have a deep inside knowledge regarding every branch of his particular line or trade—something relating to market conditions, the labor question, raw and finished material, methods of packing, and numerous other sundry details. So, as oftentimes is the case, if a number of students are studying for different industrial positions, the training is of the very broadest and, consequently, the material which the library must have on hand for them would be of an unusually wide range.

Owing to the lack of other facilities in Boston, the business men are depending more and more each day on the College of Business Administration Library. Telephone requests are numerous and many times employers send their secretaries to the library to gather extensive data. Grouped roughly the business men using the library include merchants, bankers, financiers, officers of corporations, lawyers, manufacturers, accountants, department heads in large stores, journalists, insurance men, teachers, government officials, real estate men, business organizers, advertisers, brokers, and many others too numerous to mention. A partial list of subjects treated in books which these men need, includes advertising, printing, office

and scientific management, banking, salesmanship, finance, business law, journalism, psychology, business economics, different phases of transportation, statistics, foreign trade, business English, accounting and insurance, in addition to other literature such as history, languages, education, general economics, agriculture, commercial geography, and other aids which must be continually at hand. Directories of all kinds; maps and atlases; government publications of the nation, state and city; business and general periodicals go with a well rounded selection of general business reference books. The vertical file is perhaps the most valuable and necessary adjunct of the business library, bringing, as it does, the latest available data ready at all times for reference. Pamphlets and leaflets of pertinent subjects together with miscellaneous publications of business houses, and various monthly lists of investment houses in addition to material which could not be stored on shelves form the nucleus for such a file.

As the number of different branches of business in which the graduates engage are varied, the collection must go fairly deeply into the intricacies of special lines. Graduate students must have had previous business training or work off that requirement while in the college. The material required for this class of students must be along the lines of research, and books generally are the least used. The very latest reports on technical business, economic subjects and other lines of human research must be ready to be utilized. In lumbering, for example, the literature must embrace the history of the industry, lumber accounting, administration, market and labor conditions, types and species of lumber and its products and by-products. In accounting, printed material must cover office routines, types of questions relating to the examinations of different states, cost accounting, problems and solutions. In transportation, the library must have material on rates, history, reports, accounting, interstate commerce material, law, and the very latest authentic information contained in hundreds of leaflets and pamphlets. The library is not wholly specialized as would

be a library of accounting or insurance, but it is a special collection in that it is not general as a public library.

The general reference works and literature for current information must be of the highest type and authoritative. The aim has been to gather a selection of printed matter relating to business—rather than a collection of such material. Reports of special investigations in different industries, made by students of the world's commercial development, are filed yearly. They number from sixty to two or three hundred annually and furnish material for research along special lines. Not all information regarding business is in books. Oftentimes information wanted is found with the aid of the specialized knowledge of heads of different departments, who also aid the librarian in business book selection. A commercial museum, such as the one now being installed at Boston University, helps complete the library's work.

Boston University is unique among institutions. It follows no beaten path, but blazes its own trail. Altho a private institution, its whole services are at the disposal of the community—a true municipal university. The problem of our civilization is the problem of the city. The university is to be a significant factor in our civilization and it must continue, in the future as in the past, to live in the midst of the life it serves. One of the greatest advances in educational development was the founding of the municipal university. The scientific spirit of the College of Business Administration is cordially available to the city of Boston—its manufactures, its business organizations, industrial organizations, finance, accountancy, transportation. Perhaps this article may suggest to librarians the importance of the function of a business library in connection with this scientific development of modern business administration.

ALFRED NOYES, the poet, will be associated with the English department of Throop College of Technology, in Pasadena, for one entire semester during 1917.

METHODS OF PICTURE CIRCULATION IN CINCINNATI

By N. D. C. HODGES, *Librarian, Cincinnati Public Library*

IN 1902 I was fortunate enough to make a trip to Europe, more especially to visit the public libraries of England. The landing, however, was in Holland and the way to England lay thru Bruges and Ypres. A camera with the ordinary stock lens of the period was the photographic outfit. The picture product consisted of a few hundred photographs, all of which, so far as they had some degree of clearness or were not double impressions, aroused the enthusiasm of the presser of the button. To be sure, as seen later, the general fuzziness stared him more and more in the face, but at the time he was proud of a picture with some sharpness in a central circular field and fuzziness increasing from the center to the edges. Perhaps these pictures would interest children, was a natural enough thought, but at the time the library had no lecture room. The shifting of departments left a vacant room, tho only large enough to seat a hundred and fifty boys and girls. A lantern with a lens of too short focus was purchased. A rolling screen altogether too large for the room was hung. The big screen followed as a consequence of the short-focus lens. Some slides were made from the films and others were purchased, making about 300 in all, to cover a series of four talks. The really usable films proved to be few. But boys of twelve are interested in the details of a journey, so slides were made of a passport, railroad and steamer tickets, steamer baggage labels, sleeping cars, steamer piers, a stateroom, dining room, a tug bringing out a belated passenger to the moving steamer, the crowds of friends on the pier waving good-bye, the pilot going over the side into a row boat, and the larger pilot boat near by. Then came scenes on the voyage, a chart, the engines, signals, finally the fishing steamers off the European coast, the first sight of land and the glorious sail along the south coast of England, the landing,

the gang planks, the inspection of baggage. There is hardly an end to the novel objects and scenes connected with an ocean voyage in which a wideawake boy will not take keen interest. On Feb. 2, 1904, the first show of lantern slides was made. The series of four shows was repeated a number of times before the advent of warm weather put a stop to them.

Such was the first stage. The next was the request from some one for permission to use the slides, but with the proviso that he would need others. These others were bought or made from suitable originals.

Slides began to accumulate and classification was necessary. They have not been kept in groups, but each slide is given its decimal number. The slides when not in circulation are kept in trays, twelve inches long and partitioned off into compartments, so that each compartment shall hold easily about ten slides. If the compartments are much longer the slides would be likely to drop flat to the bottom with resultingancyance. The trays are kept in drawers in unit filing cases. There is a shelf list, but it is decidedly better to select from the slides themselves. Slides vary in quality and only from the slide itself can one judge as to its serving as a suitable illustration.

The slides are taken from the library in boxes. One of these boxes will hold fully ninety slides, ample to illustrate a talk of an hour. These boxes may be bought in the trade, but generally these stock boxes have only three compartments, and are improved by putting in three more partitions. Otherwise one is liable to experience an occasional hitch in his lecture, when a half-dozen slides fall to the bottom of one of the big compartments, filling it so completely that the best way to get them out is to remove all the slides and turn the box upside down. If the slides are not shuffled in this operation, it will be a miracle. If the half light in which the operator works

and the excitement of the mishap are considered the effect upon the progress of an entertainment may be imagined.

As stated, we hung a curtain in our first lecture room. Curtains we no longer hang. In each lecture room, on the wall at the back of the stage, is a patch of white plaster, slightly tinted with yellow and framed in with wood to give it proper finish. There are no creases in plaster properly laid. At the other end of the room is a stand, on which is a table for carrying the lantern. The lantern must be provided with a good-sized lens of such focal length as to produce a picture of the right size on the plaster screen, and the purpose of the stand is to bring the lens on a level with the center of the screen. If this condition is not observed there will be distortion in the pictures, which will be especially noticeable in architectural subjects. Finally under the floor, from an outlet on the stage to a tiny electric light on the operator's side of the lantern table, is an electric signal wire, operated preferably by a few dry cells. A push button connection with the stage outlet enables the lecturer to signal for change of slides, without disturbing his or her audience with noisy clickings.

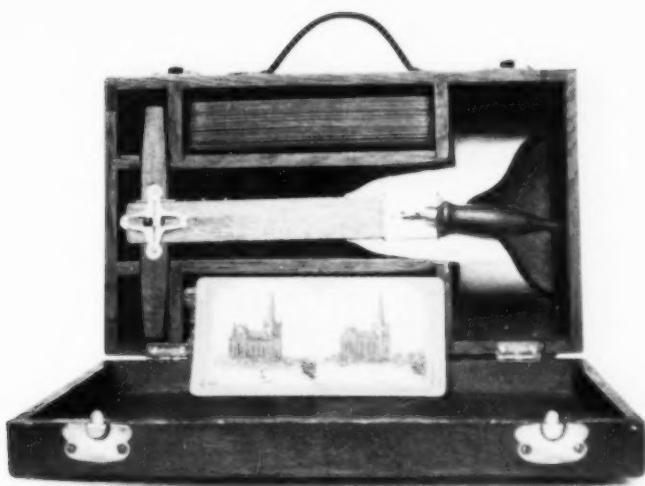
Above all things do not just order a lantern. A few years ago there was a complaint from one outside lecture hall that our slides were not clear. On testing the lantern in that hall, it was found that when the picture was in focus, with the lantern at the back of the hall, it covered not only the screen but spread out over the whole end of the hall and a considerable distance along the sides.

Be sure of good-sized lenses of the best make, and strong light. If any one comes along and wishes to use a reflectoscope attached to a sixteen candle power bulb, say nay. Some sort of result can be had with such an apparatus when a few feet from a screen in a small room, but it takes strong light to throw a picture fifty to eighty feet and make it bright enough to please an audience. It goes without saying that there should be a suitable outlet for an arc light, so placed that wires may run from it to the lantern without getting under the feet of the audience. The outfit, from that

outlet, thru the lantern to the screen, and back as it were thru the signal wire from the lecturer to the operator, should be well thought out and part of the permanent equipment of the hall. Nor should the reading light for the lecturer be forgotten. Do not depend upon makeshift connections, but have the necessary parts built into the building. Under these conditions, a trained high-school boy can set the apparatus in operation in five minutes.

Only a small percentage of the use of our slides is under our own auspices. Clubs and societies, any organization engaged in educational work, can have the use of our lecture rooms and committee rooms without charge. In the year ending June 30, 1916, 2507 availed themselves of this privilege. We do not allow the use of the rooms for religious or political meetings. We do not allow any but our own operators to run our lanterns, or the use of lanterns other than our own. Lanterns are easily put out of adjustment, and we undertake to supply the best. It is no uncommon experience to have four lanterns in operation at one time. We have eight. In the year ending June 30, 1916, 154,662 slides were used. Slides are taken out by school teachers, professors at the university, doctors, dentists, engineers, and even go into private houses; quite a few find the entertainment of their personal friends justifies the purchase of a lantern for home use. Our collection numbers over 20,000. For years the staff has included a photographer whose main duty it is to make slides.

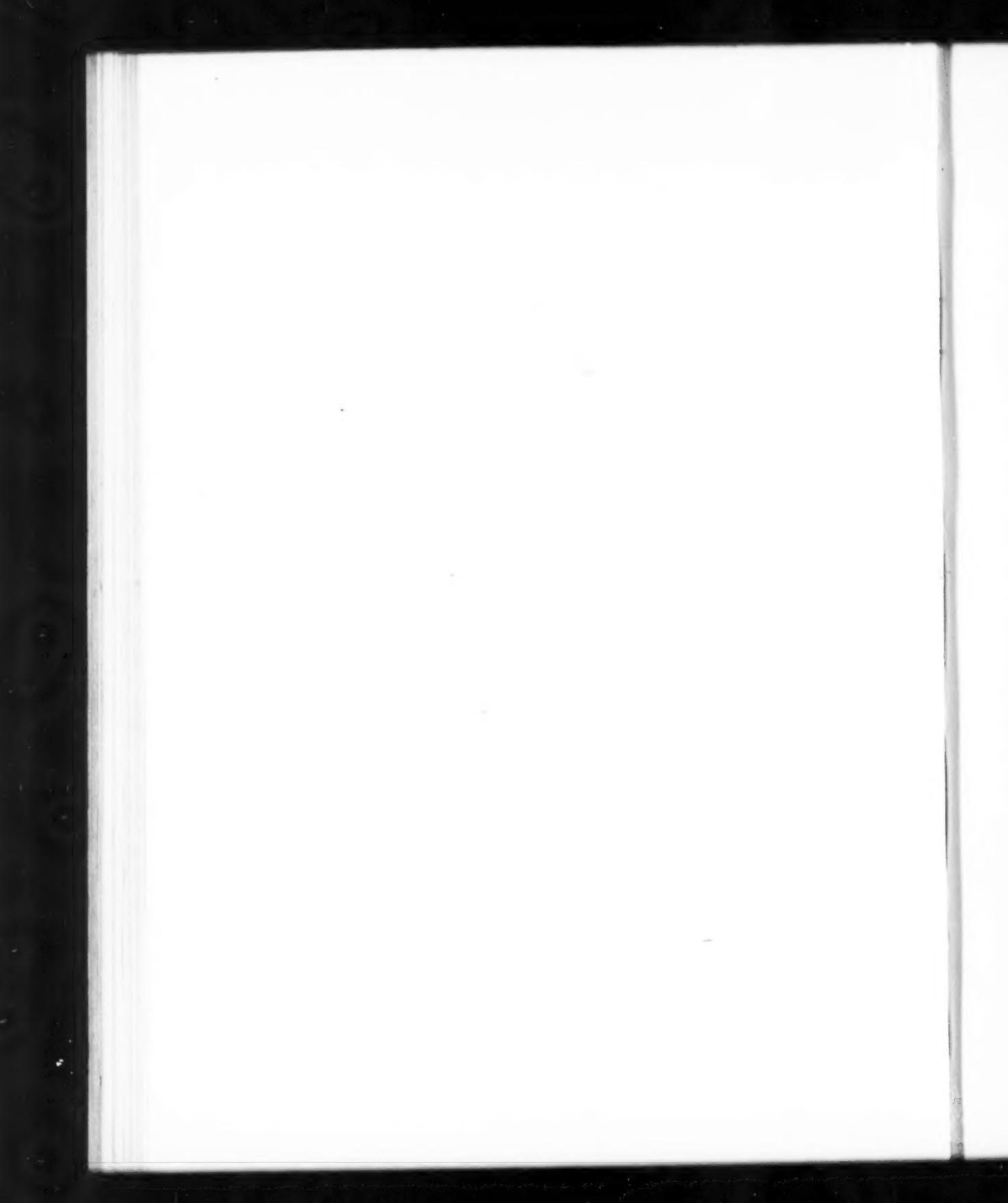
And here I had almost forgotten our transparencies. In the fall of 1908, each morning I found on my desk eight or ten slides, the product of our photographer's labor the day before. These slides were from films taken with the best of lenses, on a European trip that summer. Taking up a slide of the Grand Canal in Venice, I was struck with the brilliancy of a photograph on glass. So the photographer was summoned and told that he must try his skill at making transparencies. We would make a case for displaying transparencies: a box with hinged sides and electric lights within, set on legs to bring the pictures to the proper height for comfortable viewing.



THE SPECIAL CASE FOR CIRCULATING STEREOGRAPHS



TRANSPARENCY CASES IN THE CINCINNATI PUBLIC LIBRARY



A little ingenuity had to be exercised on the contrivance for holding the transparencies and the necessary ground glass back to fit. That was eight years ago. Now we have a collection of transparencies. The teachers began a year ago or more to ask for them. They circulate, and at a few schools are cases similar to ours for displaying them.

There is one peculiar service which our transparency case renders. The case is not far within the entrance doors. The peculiar service is not unlike that of the brightly lighted saloon door: it entices new comers. Young men, especially young artisans out of work, drift into the main building, see the bright case of pictures, and wander over to it. They are in their first trench. They have gained so much ground and can look around. By them pass men, women and even children to the circulating department. In these go and out they come—alive. The library cannot be so dreadful a place! These young men venture further, find a seat perhaps, and then a book.

A few words about the photographer. His first slide was literally a dismal failure. As years have run on he has acquired naturally considerable skill. But raw material as well as skill is necessary before one can make slides, so it is fortunate that he has developed an interest in American history. This interest has led him to make trips over the whole of the Eastern portion of the United States and Canada to take photographs of historic or literary interest. His first venture was to the birthplace of Lincoln. That was in 1906. The next year he began a systematic study of Boone's Trail, which was continued in subsequent years till he had tramped over the most of it. Battle fields of the Civil and other wars were visited. There were trips to the mountains of North Carolina, to Mackinaw, to Boston and New England and New York, to Florida, to New Orleans and Mobile, trips following the trails of early explorers of the Ohio and the Mississippi Valley, to Montreal and Quebec. In eleven summers there have been many such excursions. The result is recorded in slides and transparencies. Finally we must record the making of hundreds of photographs of Cincinnati

historic sites either from buildings still standing or from rare prints. These last are eliciting great interest from the schools.

The agents offering stereographs met with little favor till one of them solved the problem of placing stereographs on exhibition in a children's room (visited often by eight hundred children in a day) under such conditions that the pictures and stereoscopes would not be rapidly worn out. In the American homes of sixty years ago a common object—there was none such in my own home—was a rosewood box, perhaps ten inches square and fourteen inches high, with two eyepieces on one side and on the top a lid or lids lined with tin foil and so arranged that they could be tilted up, when they served as mirrors throwing light down into the box. In the box was a series of eight or ten stereographs so attached to a shaft that they could be brought in succession under the beam of reflected light and in range with the eyepieces, to the edification of any one peering in. Memory bears record to the effect that, in the unregenerate days of those many years ago, interest wandered from the instructive pictures to the foil-lined lids and their raising and lowering. Of such waywardness the children of the modern children's room are not guilty.

To agent after agent these boxes were described, till one day in the spring of 1906, an agent, after receiving the usual rebuff, returned to the library with beaming face and bearing word that he had found such boxes among discarded material in the loft of a dime museum. Six of these were bought, and paid for on April 6, 1906. They were not of rosewood and were larger than those of earlier days, but they contained clockwork, which moved the stereographs in regular procession before the eyepieces. With slight modification, this clock-work was arranged to start on pressing a push-button instead of waiting for the passage of a penny thru its vitals.

For ten long years these machines have served the children. Instead of six children sometimes there is a pile of eight or ten apparently peering into them, passing as opportunity offers from one machine to

another. The machines were old when bought, they have over and over again declared that they could no longer turn their old bones round and round showing pictures for the pleasure of the young folks. The young folks to-day enjoying the display were not born when the machines made their début in the public library. Only by frequent cajoling from the mechanician have the weary, decrepit machines been induced to keep at their worthy task of making happy the boys and girls who clamber over them. We are looking for their successors, or rather for the money with which to bring them to Cincinnati.

In the spring of 1908, the circulation of stereographs was begun. To the possessor of a stereoscope the loan of fifty stereographs in a suitable box is simple. Our stereographs are brought together according to subject in groups of fifty, as nearly as may be. They are not circulated singly but in such groups. They are charged as books are charged, but no record is made of the separate pictures. The charge is for 35, 40, 50 stereographs, as the case may be. The same number must be returned in good condition or those lost or damaged paid for.

But most families are not equipped with stereoscopes. Such a long word! Americanwise it is clipped to scope. Well, to circulate scopes and graphs, a box was contrived, a sort of small sized suit case, made of wood or so-called fiber, long enough and wide enough to carry a hand stereoscope in the center, and twenty-five stereographs in each of two pockets, one on each side of the shank of the stereoscope. This outfit was popular from the start. We have now nearly two hundred of them, and we could use a thousand all the winter thru if we had the money to buy and equip them. Is it any wonder that our picture circulation in the year ending June 30, 1916, was 417,170, or a total, with the lantern slides, of 571,832?

We circulate a few, comparative few, single pictures, which we keep in vertical files, so dear to all librarians, but of these there is no separate record. Only in last August, in summing up the picture circulation as reported in the A. L. A. statistics, did it appear that a fuller account of our methods might be of service to other libraries; the total of such circulation of all the libraries reporting came to only 393,475.

"HUMAN INTEREST" IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

BY MARILLA WAITE FREEMAN, Librarian, Goodwyn Institute, Memphis, Tenn.

"CAN you give me a good human interest story for the *Commercial Appeal*?" The new young reporter leaned hopefully over the information desk of Goodwyn Institute Library in Memphis, Tennessee.

As he spoke, a handsome Hindu, with melancholy dark eyes and polished address, came up beside him, and asked the privilege of seeing the library's resources on river control. This interesting visitor identified himself as a student of engineering at the University of Illinois, an institution which attracts so many aspiring Orientals. In a year more he would return to Calcutta to teach American engineering methods to his countrymen. On his summer vacation travels, he had come to Memphis to learn something of river and drainage engineer-

ing in the lower Mississippi Valley, a region which has many natural problems in common with his own.

"Have you also the works of my countryman, Rabindranath Tagore?" he inquired. As they were laid beside the engineering books on his table, he settled to a day of blissful research, mingled of drainage, poetry and philosophy.

Two American lads, one short and stocky, the other slim and tall, were waiting a bit sheepishly for next chance at the information desk. "Can you tell me,"—this from the stocky one—"how tall a man has to be to join the National Guards?" "And how much he has to weigh?"—from the slim one—"and for the regular Army too?" It took an Army Regulations

hand-book, a recruiting circular, and finally a telephone call to the captain of the Chickasaw Guards, to solve this problem. Ultimately, the sons of two mothers who quite obviously had not raised their boys "to be a soldier," went off exultant in the conviction that neither height nor width nor lack thereof could debar them from their country's service.

The desk telephone buzzed, and an anxious voice at the other end besought the name of the German consul-general at Chicago; and might so august a personage be addressed in plain Americanese as "My dear Sir?" Another buzz, and a lumber office spoke: "What is the comparative of sappy?" The librarian was dazed for a moment, but gathering herself, ventured on sappier, to rhyme with happier, and turned to meet the perturbed gaze of a young deaf-mute.

On a tiny slip of paper his question was written and was now thrust forward with embarrassed eagerness. "Have you a book of love letters?" The librarian read, and down the long procession of epistolary lovers ran her mind, from Abelard and Heloise to Balzac and his Madame Hanska. She read again, and this time the authentic inspiration came. Forth from its sacred space she fetched "The new standard business and social letter-writer," and with sympathetic finger pointed to Section III, on "Love and marriage." Breathing a sigh of relief, the amorous youth withdrew to a corner, where he feverishly read, wrote and destroyed by turns, till a final draft permitted to survive, was folded safely into his breast pocket. Then he departed leaving in the library waste-basket and all about the chair where he had sat, mutilated fragments and scraps, beginnings and ends of "love letters" not lacking in the divine fire, but couched in the somewhat stilted terms of "The new business and social letter-writer."

Again the telephone spoke. The Farm Development Bureau would like a list of the six best books on country life—including one on diversified farming—for the little library at Kerrville. An interested friend had promised to give them. Also, had the library copies of the new Rural

Credits and Cotton Futures Bills? The librarian said "This afternoon" to the list, and "Yes" to the bills, inwardly thankful that she had written for the latter promptly. Thankful, also, when another buzz followed, that she had heeded the slogan of "Cotton mills for the cotton states," and was ready for the Memphis capitalist who wished to investigate mill costs and machinery.

A committee of three determined looking ladies appeared at the desk. The city was in the throes of a summer struggle between the Board of Health, seeking to enforce pasteurization of the milk supply, and the Dairymen's Association, asserting that its product was already beyond fear and above reproach. The largest woman's club of the city was preparing to take a hand and its representatives had come for ammunition. Armed with latest reports of the American Medical Milk Commission, and the milk bulletins of Uncle Sam's never resting Department of Agriculture, they retired to a table. Meantime the librarian telephoned to a wise children's specialist who knows the milk supply as life or death to his charges. He summed the situation in a sentence: "Tell the ladies to tell the dairy-men if they will keep their milk down to 100,000 non-pathogenic bacteria per cubic centimeter in winter and 200,000 in summer, they will not need to pasteurize: certified milk is always under 10,000: I give all my babies certified milk."

A fair-haired foreign youth was waiting, as the librarian hung up the receiver. He had just come down the river from St. Louis; said the big policeman on the corner of Main and Madison had told him to come to Goodwyn Institute and "the library lady" would tell him how to find a job. Said he was from Odessa, had been in this country two years, had good experience as a house-boy, but was willing to do anything. His frank and wistful countenance was most appealing. The library lady felt she must not fail. She looked about the room. At one of the tables a resourceful and sympathetic young rabbi was looking over the latest sociological books. It needed but a word to bring his resourcefulness into play. In

a trice he had the head of the Jewish Charities on the 'phone and in possession of the story. "From Odessa, did you say? Why, that's the town where I was born. Send the boy along. Sure, I'll get him a job." And once more the receiver clicked with the joy of achievement, as it hung up for a brief rest.

The young reporter was still waiting, but watchful. His pencil scratched intermittently. "Strikes me you get lots of human interest up here," he volunteered. "Quite a good deal in the last twenty minutes. If you don't mind, guess I'll call my story 'Thirty minutes at the Library Human Interest Desk.'"

LITERARY CENSORSHIP AND THE LIBRARY

IN "The Librarian's" column in the *Boston Transcript* for Oct. 25, E. L. Pearson discusses a recent editorial on "Chaotic literary censorship" in the New York *Tribune* in which the writer maintains that this matter is better handled in France and in European countries generally than in this country.

"There is an amazing lot of cant uttered on this subject," writes Mr. Pearson. "Most reasonable folk think that it is right to demand that a book of genuine artistic power shall not be suppressed or condemned because it deals with any of the subjects which are usually grouped under the term 'sex.' But a small group of writers, who fancy themselves liberal, seem to insist that the mere fact that a book, story or play has any one of these subjects for its theme, is reason enough for its acceptance. Weak and silly sentimentality, crude and glaring melodrama, slippshod writing, 'moral' conversions more absurd than in the worst of the old Sunday School tracts—any or all of these are to be pardoned in a novel which is 'outspoken on the theme of sex.'

"In other words, literary criticism is to be suspended in the case of any writing on this subject, and the public librarian who does not instantly buy a sophomoric novel, if it happens to describe the red-light district, must invariably be a prude.

"They order this matter better in France," declares the writer in the *Tribune*, "and on the Continent generally. There the duty of protecting youth against dangerous influences in literature and on the stage is squarely put upon the right shoulders—those of parents and guardians and educators."

"As this follows the statement about a novel which was 'banned' by a public library, there is evidently an intentional comparison between American and French methods. It makes us think that the writer used more haste than thought. Waiving the question whether librarians are not themselves 'educators' (many of them stridently insist that they are), is there not such a difference in social conditions in the two countries as to make the comparison almost useless? There is in France no such system of free public libraries as that which is found here. In this country the open-shelf rooms, with practically every book free to the use of anyone above the age of 15 or 16, make the problem quite different. We fancy that the French 'parents and guardians' would find their duty rather irksome if American library systems prevailed in France.

"A public library and a book-shop are different places. Hasty judgment sometimes leads to the conclusion that anything which may be legally published and sold may fitly be circulated by the public library. The most intelligent opinion among American librarians recognizes the difference. In this judgment many publishers and authors agree.

"Almost at the same time that the writer in the *Tribune* was complaining that a novel had been 'banned' (if they would only get a new word!) by the public library, another newspaper was publishing a series of letters from persons who had been engaged in counting 'immoral' novels upon the shelves of the same library.

"Does it ever occur, we wonder, to the passionate enthusiasts who condemned the public library as 'hide-bound by puritanical prudishness,' that the librarians are usually under fire from other extremists who are worried at the shocking license of the place?"

LIBRARIES AND THE "AMERICA FIRST" CAMPAIGN

THE library can play an important part in the nation-wide effort at this time to induce a large attendance of immigrants upon night schools. Many libraries have already responded to the appeal sent out in September and still others will be heard from. Libraries everywhere realize the need of teaching the non-English-speaking immigrant English. To do so will diminish difficulties in advertising books among foreigners, and in keeping track of books loaned. Hence the general call, and the response to it, from so many quarters.

The "America First" campaign was undertaken at the request of school authorities who have come to feel that local facilities for securing publicity for evening schools are inadequate. They find funds insufficient for advertising and sometimes local obstacles. It was thought that by carrying on a national campaign of publicity over a protracted period the more than usual interest aroused would supplement local advertising. Furthermore, many forces, such as industries, chambers of commerce, labor unions, immigrants' societies, the foreign-language press, and patriotic societies, which had never actively participated before, would be persuaded to co-operate each in some effective way.

At the request of two conferences on Americanization, held in connection with the Detroit and New York City meetings of the National Education Association, the United States Commissioner of Education, P. P. Claxton, appointed a national committee of one hundred to carry on the campaign in co-operation with the Bureau of Education.

A number of prominent and public-spirited citizens, representing every possible contact with immigrants, are upon this committee. The libraries of the country are represented by George B. Utley, secretary of the American Library Association. The chairman of the committee is the Honorable John Price Jackson, Commissioner of Labor and Industry for the state of Pennsylvania, a man long interested in the welfare of immigrants. As an official he has effected many plans for the welfare of

immigrants in the great industrial state of Pennsylvania, where thousands of immigrants are employed.

Libraries have many facilities for advertising night schools. Slips in foreign languages can be inserted in books loaned to immigrant men, women, and children. Lists of books suitable for foreigners wishing to study English can be published in the foreign-language newspapers or in leaflets for distribution.

The schedule of activities suggested for libraries covers the following items:

1. Print a large number of *slips advertising evening schools and library facilities* and insert in each book loaned to immigrant men, women, and children. Translate into foreign languages when possible.

2. Advertise library facilities in *foreign-language newspapers* published in your city. (See city directory for list or consult some educated immigrant.)

3. Write *short, effective articles* on library advantages for immigrants. The foreign-language newspapers will publish these free.

4. Print or mimeograph *list of books* in foreign languages or English suitable for immigrants. Include texts in "English for Foreigners" and civics in the list. (New York City and Providence, R. I., Public Libraries have such lists.)

5. Appoint competent committees of educated foreign-born citizens to co-operate in selection of books in foreign languages and in English suitable for immigrants. Ask members of committees to stimulate patronage of library.

6. Request frequent announcements of library facilities at meetings of immigrants' societies.

7. Write to H. H. Wheaton, specialist in immigrant education and chairman of the executive committee in charge of "America First" campaign, for suggestions and the "Americanization plan for libraries," the Division of Immigrant Education circular no. 13.

By way of assisting librarians in formulating advertisements suitable for assisting immigrants thru slips and foreign-language newspapers, the following advertisements are suggested:

No. 1

Name of Library Location
 The Library has —— books in English suitable for Immigrants.

Learn to read books about the United States by studying English in the Night Schools. Take your wife along.

Choose the one nearest your home from the following list:

Name of school Location
 Classes begin at —— o'clock on _____

No. 2

Name of Library Location
 The Library has —— books in "English for Immigrants."

Learn English by attending night school. Library books will help you.

Study English. Take a friend along to the nearest night school.

Name of school Location
 Classes begin at —— o'clock on _____

No. 3

Name of Library Location
 Foreign-language newspapers and periodicals can be read in the library.

To get all the news, learn to read American newspapers and periodicals in the night school nearest your home.

Name of School Location
 Classes begin at —— o'clock on _____

No. 4

If you are a citizen of the United States, will you induce one non-English-speaking friend to learn English by going to night school?

Choose a school nearest his home.

Name of School Location
 Classes begin at —— o'clock on _____

No. 5

(Where no night schools exist in the community, the following notice is suggested.)

Name of Library Location
 Learn English by studying books in "English for Immigrants."

This Library has them. Call and get one. Bring along a friend who wants to learn English.

As chairman of the executive committee in active charge of the "America First" campaign, this opportunity is taken to invite the co-operation of all interested library officials in the Americanization movement. The number of non-English-speaking foreign-born whites, in 1910, who were ten years of age or over, was 2,953,011. They constitute a large unassimilated mass.

It will take the constant, untiring effort of every American institution and agency to adjust them to American conditions. To teach them English is the first step, and it is the first point of attack decided upon by the national committee of one hundred.

The schools and the libraries are two forces which must take the brunt of the burden.

H. H. WHEATON,
Specialist in Immigrant Education,
United States Bureau of Education.

 ARGUMENTS FOR THE SUPPORT OF
 A TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

In the little village of Sparta, Michigan, in the same county in which Grand Rapids is located, there is published a weekly paper called the *Sparta-Sentinel*. The editor of this paper took an active part in the fight last spring to get the people of the township to vote for a township library, and this carried at the election. A grant of \$10,000 from the Carnegie Corporation was made March 31 for this township library building. The arguments put forth by the rural editor were unusually good and well stated and may be used to advantage in many another community.

 WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR LIBRARY
 MAINTENANCE

\$10,000 Gifts are not Dealt out to Undeserving People

There is only one reason why anyone will hesitate to vote for the Carnegie Library, which question comes before Sparta Township electors on April 4th. That reason is that it means a tax of $\frac{1}{2}$ mill, or 1-20th of a cent on each dollar assessed valuation of your property. If your farm is assessed \$3000, that means a tax of \$1.50. The questions every property owner should ask himself or herself should be something like this: Is it good business for me to turn down a free gift of a \$10,000 Township Public Library, that shall be open for my free use, or for the use of my children or my neighbor's children year after year, because it will cost me the price of six dozen eggs per year, if my property is assessed at \$3000. An average price for just one good book on any subject these days is about \$1.50. Will it not pay me indefinitely better to put that \$1.50 into a free library, where I can get access any week day or evening to a thousand books, many of them of greater value than that, and the free use of any of

which I can have in my own home? As a farmer will it not be a cheap and paying investment, giving me the use of the best books published on agriculture, horticulture, stock raising, and feeding, etc., and putting within my reach all the bulletins published by the government and the agricultural colleges of the country?

Should I ever wish to sell my property will not the fact that it is near to good schools, churches, and a FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY make it more desirable to a purchaser who is intelligent and progressive? Had I not better lay aside that six dozen eggs a year, and vote "Yes" on April 4th for a Carnegie Library? Why should I send my boy and girl to school to learn, among other things, how to read, and then when the opportunity comes offering almost an unlimited supply of the world's best literature, to feed their growing and hungry minds—why should I by my vote rob them of this just because it may cost me a half dozen dozen eggs?

There are many reasons why we should vote for this library proposition. The probabilities are that in our generation we will not have the offer of a gift of a library building again. The Carnegie funds that have gone to the building of libraries are to be withdrawn from that purpose and given to the establishment of a World's Peace Foundation. [?]

If we vote to accept the gift of Mr. Carnegie, there will be provided in the building, besides ample free reading rooms, a hall or room for public assembly, the use of which will be free for township or public gatherings.

A free library of this kind is a kind of secular church: it is a temple where the greatest voices of the ages may be heard; it is a treasury of wisdom gathered from all lands, and he who uses it aright has provided for him without cost a liberal education.

If your boy has had a high school education, he needs the public library to continue his mental growth, and that he may be able to give his brains a good square meal once in a while.

If your boy has been denied a high school education he greatly needs this opportunity to get for himself an education that you could not give him.

We should economize on everything else before we think of economizing on our brain food. While as Americans we count ourselves in the front rank of the progressive and civilized peoples of the world, we cannot boast of this while in our villages, towns, and cities we have more lock-ups, jails, poorhouses and saloons than we have libraries and free reading rooms. Let us put Sparta Township on the map as one of the best places to live in the State of Michigan by voting for this splendid public library which will not cost the average citizen one half dozen dozen eggs a year.

THE MISSIONARY RESEARCH LIBRARY IN NEW YORK CITY

In 1914 the Foreign Missions Conference of North America found itself facing a need for facilities for research work of an advanced nature in the science of missions. So acutely was this need felt that it instructed its committee of reference and counsel to take steps to establish some central, interdenominational library, on thoroly modern lines; and, accordingly, in the spring of that year, space was secured in an office building in New York City, high-grade equipment installed, and the Missionary Research Library formally launched.

As has been suggested, the purpose of the library is to provide opportunities for the scientific study of missions, and it is thoroly interdenominational and international in its scope. The aim ultimately includes that proposed after the Ecumenical Missionary Conference in 1900 for the Central Missionary Bureau of Information, namely: "to furnish reliable data as to distribution of missionary force, occupation of fields, and vital statistics." This difference between the two organizations is to be noted, however. Whereas the Central Bureau was not only to publish this data, but to act as an agency for publications common to all the missionary societies, the Missionary Research Library is to be a depository of this data, to collect significant missionary records, and so to organize them that investigators will come here to find the history of what has been done, and material for further work. In our case, the publishing function is in abeyance. As a result of its formal connection with the Foreign Missions Conference, it stands in the same relation to Boards of Foreign Missions as the United Charities Organization does to local societies. Its scope seems restricted, yet in reality it is wide. Essentially, it deals with the history, methods, and problems of missions in non-Christian lands; and this, of course, includes the tremendous field of Comparative Religion. But recognizing, also, the importance of the social and economic environment of any community, the need is keenly felt of providing for up-to-

date study of the history, sociology, anthropology, and religious psychology of these countries. Hence the necessity of keeping abreast of the results of modern research in these sciences. For this reason, it has been found necessary to secure sets of such publications as those of the Anthropological Society of London.

Aiming primarily to meet the demands of authors, editors, board secretaries, and missionaries on furlough, unusual care has been exercised from the very start in the selection of books. The libraries of the Student Volunteer Movement and the Continuation Committee of the Edinburgh Conference were consolidated, thus forming a working nucleus of some 2000 volumes; and the titles in the carefully selected missionary bibliographies of H. U. Weitbrecht and J. Lovell Murray were approved for acquisition *in toto* at the first meeting of the Library Committee. Before much actual purchasing was done, however, generous gifts began to come in from various interested sources, and the staff soon found itself with a serious problem on hand in sorting and checking this miscellaneous material. At first, little or no attempt was made at actual cataloging, there being only time for a simple author list in the case of books, and an issue by issue check of the reports and periodicals. This method of handling the latter seemed cumbersome, slow and expensive, but it was soon proven that, given the enormous field to be covered, it was another instance of the longest way 'round being the shortest way home. Files were at first so broken and scattered that in order to make any intelligible check-list of what was desired, it was necessary to note each separate item received, and its condition. There were practically no long runs that could be lumped in one entry.

Of first importance among these early gifts was that made by the estate of the late Dr. James S. Dennis. His valuable library on the Turkish Empire and the Near East was donated outright to us, thus forming the Dennis Memorial Collection; in addition, the Missionary Research Library secured the plates and entire extant stock of all Dr. Dennis' own writings, the

proceeds from the sale of which go to the enlarging of the Memorial Collection; while there was placed here in indefinite deposit the valuable scrap-books compiled by Dr. Dennis during the preparation of his monumental work, "Christian missions and social progress."

As the first mass of materials was sorted out, letters were sent to missionary societies in North America, Great Britain, the Continent, Australia, and New Zealand, explaining the purpose of the library, and requesting help in procuring files of their reports and periodicals. The promptness and generosity of response to these requests was most gratifying. The British and Foreign Bible Society sent complete file of their reports from the beginning, 1805, many of them bound especially for us; the Church Missionary Society, England, sent a great case full of its publications; the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions gave files of the reports of its various stations; and so on everywhere. Nor was the response to personal interviews and solicitation any less hearty. In all directions there were opened to us garrets, cellars, and like places of storage, which resulted in our bringing to light rich finds, and, incidentally, carrying off much dirt!

This solicitation referred almost exclusively to files of reports and periodicals. An attack was made on the vast field of books by means of lists compiled from various bibliographies and submitted to experts for their criticism and additions. Such authorities as Dr. W. E. Griffis (on Japan), Dr. D. B. Macdonald (on Mohammedanism), and Dr. J. N. Farquhar (on India) gave, and are still giving, valuable help in this regard. Note was made of the criticisms, those titles reported on unfavorably being carded and filed, the others condensed into a single desiderata list, to be purchased at the earliest opportunity. As a result of all these processes, the library has grown, in approximately two years and a half, from a bare concrete flour to over 12,800 bound volumes, to say nothing of pamphlets and unbound material!

The problems involved in this rapid growth have been many and various. The

staff has consisted of three trained workers, with a varying number of untrained and part-time helpers. While we have thus been able to control our material, we have been brought up against the rather ludicrous but not the less trying question of how to prevent the workers from falling over each other! For a fundamental problem has been the mechanical one of space. The growth of the library has far and away exceeded the fondest expectations, and even at the end of the first year it became necessary to increase the stack capacity. In connection with this, it must be remembered that an office building affords practically no storage space; and, thanks to the generous gifts, we were soon under the necessity of housing a large number of duplicates. Since expansion horizontally was found to be impossible, the stack question was answered temporarily by raising the tiers thruout by four shelves. Trolleys were run at the junction of the two sections, and ladders installed. As the space between the tiers is only 27 inches, it has been suggested that in future there be a special avoirdupois requirement for each member of the staff! (The librarian once asked one of the little pages what she considered should be in a good library, and rather had her breath taken away by the prompt response, "Enough space between the stacks for two people to pass each other!")

As may be imagined, with so much material pouring in, it was impossible to keep the detailed cataloging up to date. Each book was listed and put on the open shelves as soon as it came in, but for the first year no books were permanently marked, the classification being merely penciled lightly on the inside. The problem of keeping track on the shelves of the uncataloged books was then solved by the simple expedient of pasting a very small label on the back of the book, the label being removed when the book was cataloged. The classification presented a very serious difficulty, as, for such special work, any existing one would require considerable change and expansion. The one finally adopted, however, is that used in the Day Missions Library at Yale, modified by a sup-

plementary scheme worked out by the librarian to meet the actual needs of this library. So far as practicable, geographical divisions are emphasized, both in the catalog and on the shelves. The units are made as small as possible, the tendency being to work down even to cities. This has resulted in making the catalog partly classed and partly dictionary, for in the effort to show quickly all the work done in (let us say) Africa, all the divisions of that continent have been filed under "Africa," a general cross-reference only appearing in the alphabetical place where normally the division would be found. Thus, W. Holman Bentley's "Pioneering on the Congo" files under "Africa—Southwest," the red-heading being "Congo—Missions," and there being a reference "Congo—See under Africa—Southwest." In this way, on consulting the drawer for Africa, the reader has presented to him at once a bird's-eye view of the present accepted missionary divisions of Africa, with each book the library possesses on that continent in its proper setting with the other divisions of the country. Of course, each book is entered primarily under the author's name.

Some of our difficulties have been solved, some are now being worked out, while, like Hamlet and his philosophy, there are some ahead of which we do not dream. Yet, in its short existence, the Missionary Research Library has justified itself on the unassailable ground of service rendered.

HOLLIS W. HERING, *Librarian.*

J. B. KERFOOT, the literary critic of *Life*, is giving a series of informal literary lectures in Chickering Hall, the auditorium of Lord & Taylor's store in this city. These are given every Tuesday afternoon at 3, and free tickets of admission may be obtained on application at the Lord & Taylor Book Shop. Mr. Kerfoot discusses three or four of the new books in each lecture, considering them in relation to current events and broad movements of thought rather than from any severely technical standpoint.

REBACKING LEATHER-BOUND LAW BOOKS

IN the eighteenth annual report of the Worcester County Law Library Dr. G. E. Wire, the deputy librarian, gives an extended report on the results of his labor and observations in the matter of rebacking cloth and leather bound books. Where the sewing is good, the book firm and strong and only the back or one or two covers loose, he finds it 50 per cent. cheaper to reback than it is to rebind. The latter necessitates tearing the book to pieces, making fresh saw cuts in back, resewing it and then trimming it all around "to make a good job." Thus the very processes which should preserve the book wear it out all the more. In this report Dr. Wire writes more particularly on rebacking law books, although of course rebacking is only one form or manifestation of repairing.

"If the sewing be sound," he says, "with no loose leaves or sections, inside back or lining be firmly attached to the backs of the section and one or both covers perfect but loose; also if the back or at least title leathers be perfect and in such a state of preservation that they can be used, and if the leather or cloth on the sides be in fair condition, and these same sides be not rounded as to corners and ragged as to edges, it looks as if we had a good case for rebacking. Some difference also will be found between a loose back and a tight back book. It is perfectly true and undeniably a fact that the tight back is the stronger binding, but it is more liable to break in the middle. I am of the opinion that loose back books are the best in the long run and they certainly are more easy to reback.

"If this work can be done in the building, and that is the better way, a separate room or corner of stackroom should be fitted up for this purpose. Good light, artificial or natural, is necessary. Then a bench at least seven feet long by three feet wide, and about forty inches high, a back-ing press, hand press, gas or oil stove, glue pot and brushes, paste brushes, marble skiving slab, beating hammer, palette, leather knives, supply of cloths and leathers

are the main requisites. Type and gilding materials may be hired by the library. Really the most necessary part of the equipment is the human part. A suitable man to do repairing neatly, reliably and expeditiously is seldom found outside our larger cities. The best persons we have found for this purpose were foreign born and foreign trained with a genuine love and appreciation for old books. It would seem that in the schools for arts and crafts necessary training might be found for this work which is really and pre-eminently woman's work. If not needed all the time in any one library a skilled craftswoman should be able to gain a good living by establishing a clientele among several libraries, either spending her time among them or making her headquarters at one library and having the books sent to her there. The ordinary bindery does not care for this work. . . .

"Careful examination of the books on binding issued in England and United States, shows that the very subject of rebacking is given less than two pages in only one of the half dozen books on binding issued since 1890. The rest of these books hardly mention the subject of rebacking. This is an important subject in many libraries, particularly where there are folios of Law, Theology, and Travel of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. These old treasures were printed with honest ink, on handmade paper, mostly linen, sewed on raised bands and laced in boards and well covered with good calfskin or later sheepskin. It were a shame indeed, to spoil this sewing, as no ordinary sewing as done to-day in our job binderies could approach it in durability or in strength. The backs have cracked along the edges but the sewing is sound, bands are all there and the book is firm and solid. Many octavos of the first half of the 19th century, especially long runs of periodicals, societies and law reports, one half or full bound, are more economically rebacked than rebound, even at the same price. . . .

"The main object in rebacking is to save as much of the external flavor of antiques as possible. All autographs and book plates should be removed and replaced later. . . .

In case the book plates cannot be removed from the cover without spoiling them, a window is cut in the new end paper, so that the book plate shows plainly. Only a vandal would cover up a book plate completely so that none of its beauty could be seen. The choice of materials is governed by the original, leather being replaced by leather, and cloth by cloth, each being matched in color as nearly as possible, not necessarily matched exactly as to substance, and if possible a weaker covering is replaced by a stronger covering. More and more we are using goat skin instead of sheep for rebacking and we find the buckram do better than publishers' cloths on back of cloth bound books. . . .

"The three processes are—taking down, covering, and finishing. First taking down, where the sewing is good, one or both boards are attached, and the book has a loose back. Remove the cloth or leather outside back with a sharp knife, and then carefully peel off the paper lining from the inside of this outer back, if this back be in such condition that you can use it again. Using a square pointed knife, or better still a scribing or tobacco blade and rule, carefully and accurately trim the frayed edges so that when it goes on the new back it is entirely within the hand hold as the back is gripped in the hand and so it is not loosened from the new back. This being the first to come off is the last to go on. Then clean off the paper, super and glue from the back of the sections, great care being taken not to cut the threads or bands, and now with your knife and rule cut back from the boards $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch next to the hinge and remove the strip of frayed cloth or decayed leather, care being taken not to cut the lacings of the back and to make the space the same on both sides, even and square. In most cases there is a line or part of a pattern as guide, especially in cloth bound books. Next with a paper cutter or other blunt edge, lift up the edge of this covering for at least one-half inch. Where paste has been used in affixing the cloth or leather cover to the binder's board, this is a simple matter and comparatively easy, but when glue has been used and the cloth or leather

is decayed or worn, this step will take a good bit of patience and time. With all care and patience this cloth and especially leather will tear more or less. Really this leather ought to be pared down but this cannot be done on outside of the leather for fear of spoiling the finish and not on the inside because one cannot get at it. If needed, book and covers are to be put in press, but generally this is not necessary. . . .

"If the leather labels are brittle and friable and it is desired to preserve them, put a little lucelline on them, rub thoroly and let stand for a few days. Then this label can generally be dissected off by using time and care, and a blunt pointed, thin edged bone folder, especially prepared for this purpose. If these labels are to be used at all they must be carefully and thoughtfully removed. The older labels are generally better leathers and thicker than the modern ones which are skivers, machine cut almost to thinness of bond paper. Preserving entire backs is hardly necessary on ordinary books. If there be much gilding or distinctive marking and the leather will stand it, then save them. Here is where the lucellining process shows up by giving life to the leathers. . . . In our own library Scott's Common Bench Reports had much lettering on back. Besides the names of the volumes, they bore names of Judges who sat during the cases therein reported, and even the names of the terms of court, Trinity, Michaelmas, etc. These we preserved if possible as they were long and the reports are known by various names.

"In covering, the head band is pasted top and bottom of backs of sections. This may be omitted at a slight saving in cost if so desired. Then a strip of twilled cotton, which in our bindery takes the place of the super used by binders and the canton flannel used by some libraries, is cut at least an inch wider on each side than the back of the book and about one-half inch from top and bottom. This piece of cloth is one of the main elements of strength in a repair job, and is firmly and smoothly affixed to back of sections by hot glue. A loose section may be sewed directly onto this cloth, which is much stronger than the regular

super. Care should be taken to fit the section in so it will be even at top and bottom. Spaces are cut in this piece of cloth to pass around the lacings or strings, carefully marked in the joint and pasted on to the covers, great care being taken to make a neat, smooth, even and regular job of it. Next the paper lining is fitted and glued to the inner cloth back and we are now ready for the outside back of cloth or leather, as the case may be. If leather, it is pared on the edges so as to make a neater job, and if cloth of course cannot be pared. In both cases it is cut so as to fit the back of the book, this of course differing with the book. Allowance is made for flaps on both sides, to occupy the spaces under the covers already prepared and also sufficient to turn under top and bottom. If the title leathers are used, another volume of the set or a rubbing of the set should be used, to keep them the right height and make the job look as well and the lot of books as uniform as possible. By far the best way to finish the back is to reletter it, care being taken to use same or similar fonts of type as on other books. Be careful to keep lines even on the books and also to match the paneling by blind tooling if the work is a valuable one. . . . Great attention should be paid to have all volumes of a set match and all similar volumes harmonize. . . .

"On books with tight backs, if sewing is intact and back is firm, generally more square than round, we remove labels if possible and carefully cut or pare the leather away from back of the signatures. We then glue the twilled cotton on at the back, leaving flaps at the side as usual and from there on we proceed as if it were a loose back, as it finally becomes when done. If a section is loose, it is sewed in as before noted after the cloth lining has become dry. Sometimes we only put in one paper lining fold instead of 2 or 3 in the tight back books. The folios of 2 and 3 centuries ago, printed on handmade rag paper, bound without saw cuts and sewed over raised bands, are of course not liable to break in the back. It is the modern variety of tight back books which break, because they are not as a general thing

sewed on raised bands, and in some cases have no backlining, depending entirely on the leather back for strength. When this goes the book is spoiled. We have re-backed quite a number of these folios by carefully cleaning off the glue from the section backs and the bands, making the cuts under side leathers as before noted and whenever possible, saving the title leathers and volume numbers. In most cases however, these have been too far gone. A new back of India goat is cut, pared on edges and put on with paste, so that more time can be given to its adjustment than can be done when hot glue is used. This new back is carefully moulded over the raised bands by diligent use of a folder, and when dry gets a little blind tooling to help it along, and is then ready for end papers and for the gilding—author, title and other essentials in large type, as befits the size of the volume. In case of a half or $\frac{3}{4}$ bound book, we have supplied a new back, put on marbled paper or cloth sides and corners of same material as the back, all this of course before inside end papers are put on. In a few cases where one cover is gone we have supplied a cover by using a piece of binder's board of approximately the same weight as the other cover and cut to same size. This is attached by means of a cloth lining on the inner side and leather is cut large enough to allow not only for covering the entire new board, and turning in around edges, as in any leather work, but also to allow for covering the back. Or it may cover only the new board, the new back being put on as before noted. In some cases new corners have to be made, patches set in the covers, and in one of our old books we have run new leather around the edges where they were apparently frayed out. We do not give any fine art treatment, and I have only outlined such ordinary methods as can be done by care, patience and time. It is wonderful what a difference in a volume and set, careful, conscientious repair work will make. Then lucelline and varnish these new backs and you have a job that will last a life time and more under any reasonable care and use."

CHANGE

In this present optimistic day the value of a vacation is so uniformly recognized in all professional and business walks of life, that there exists scarcely a person of value to his work, who is not given from two weeks to three months time from his year for his personal use. The knowledge is by hard proof, that such a man or woman is of more value during the balance of the working year because of this vacation. This "time off" is to be spent exactly as suits the desire of the person concerned. While some vacations are doubtless those of literal and absolute rest—a cessation of any exertion of body or mind save those of necessity—by far the larger number of vacations, and those bringing the finest returns both to the work and the worker, are those spent in a change of activity. If the bookkeeper who is accustomed to an eight hour day before a ledger, spends two weeks paddling a canoe, tramping mountains, or fishing, physically his vacation time holds more work than his pencil-pushing, but the gain from such an absolute change is obvious.

To receive such a benefit it is not necessary to stop a so-called "career." Already most libraries realize that a variety of activities within itself shared by assistants help both the quality of the work and the ability of the assistants. Could this idea not be carried farther with most happy results?

The libraries of the United States range from small buildings boasting a part-time librarian to enormous city systems, with many branches and hundreds of assistants. The general conditions of library work differ less perhaps than those of any other profession, owing to the consistent desire for uniformity and the common output from which they draw their ammunition—books.

Library assistants of every type come from various localities, and fortunately, attractiveness, capability and general desirability are not confined to any single district. In proof of this visit any state library meeting or A. L. A. It would be possible for people of like usefulness to exchange positions for a year to the benefit of all

interested. There is no doubt that the work is nearly enough parallel in different localities to permit this. Salaries too are nearly enough the same for the same work; the variance in the latter usually according with the cost of living.

One library worker who was consulted on this matter said, "Oh yes, it would be easy enough with the first class girl"— But surely the contention may be made that there are, alas, far more second class girls, and so an exchange might just as well be arranged for them. After a year of absolutely different surroundings who shall dare say such a second class girl would not graduate to first position.

Such a change might be arranged thru a board appointed for the purpose by the A. L. A., which could form a library clearing house for ambition and personal taste. The following points are suggested:

1. Such a change should be entirely optional on the parts of those changing.
2. The original position would be held for the person making such a change.
3. Personal references required.
4. Co-operation between librarians in permitting the adjustment such changes would necessitate.
5. A social equality if possible and arrangements for social existence in the new environment.

In return for the temporary jar that would shake our well balanced systems the gains would be quite definite. A new point of view always brings suggestions and inspiration. The greatest gains would undoubtedly be to the individuals; but here, again, thru their deepened personalities to the work at large. In learning a new locality and new methods of work the staleness of life, which is ever ready to encroach upon us at every turn, might be cheated. To serve under some of the brilliant and encouraging librarians who might make this "post graduate" plan a success, in itself would constitute a liberal education. Then in a social way the gain to individuals would be almost invaluable.

Picture the possibilities of development for the girl who was born and has spent her life in a middle size city. Say that she has been in library work five or six

years and does it fairly well. During that time she has grown and expanded but her own town can never really free itself from regarding her thru its knowledge of her family, her previous faults or virtues. Imagine then a clean sheet—the chance to be taken for what she now is—freed from the shadow of the family tree and away from the doubts of her "own country." Such possibilities are limited only by individual imaginations.

Travel has always been acknowledged a most successful method of education. The living for such a length of time under new conditions and studying different people—finding out the truth of "Eastern culture," "Western friendliness," "Southern hospitality"—does not the mere suggestion hold a fascination for those many who are familiar with a limited part of the country?

At one time or another most people have wished to "be" someone else. While this is literally impossible a social exchange in connection with the business one would approach this ideal. Letters between the "exchangers" would state the conditions of work and pleasure. The girl who was to have someone take her place would make the living arrangements for the newcomer, leave word with her friends for her entertainment as if she were a guest. This would constitute only an introduction to the new life. Later she could establish her own position. Many could have a year in a distant place who could never, for personal or business reasons, consider a permanent change of location. The final homecoming might bring a contentment which would never come in any other way.

Shelley says "Naught may endure but mutability." Enrichment following a successful application of such an idea would be inevitable—not only to the library profession but to that larger profession of living.

E. LOUISE LAUDER

THE old-time librarian was contemporary with the past. The present-day librarian must not forget to be contemporary also with the present. He must be informed not merely as to the book, but as to the reader.
—HERBERT PUTNAM.

THE NEW LIBRARY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

In the new and splen'did outfitting of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the Cambridge shore of the Charles River Basin, the library takes its place as the central feature architecturally as well as educationally, being housed beneath the dome whose great hemisphere gives to its reading room a setting that is in accord with the inspiration that the books must furnish.

The buildings of the New Technology—it is a single structure to be sure, but so vast that it is convenient to speak of its wings as buildings—are ranged about the three sides of a great central court and deploy thence about the three sides each of two minor courts, symmetrically disposed with reference to the axis of the group. There is developed by this treatment a nobility of character, an expression of magnitude and a feeling of spaciousness sadly lacking in the monumental piles that constitute most of the public buildings in this country.

From the opposite shore of the basin the eye mounts the fifteen feet from water level to the Esplanade, the treatment of which will rest with the park commissioners, municipal or state. Under the circumstances of opportunity it is easy to believe that no other than a dignified port approach can here be possible to the great court and its extension which opens on the river. This rises in broad terraces of steps suggestive of the splendid stairways of ancient temples. Here the gradual uplift of the court leads the eye—and the feet, if one is really there—to the great colonnaded portico of the modern temple of learning, the library building.

In similar fashion the eye above is caught by the masses of the constructions, which, rising step on step as they recede, converge their lines in the impressive Roman dome that surmounts the reading room.

The educational portion of the New Technology consists of buildings three to four stories in height clustered about the library. The great dome rests on a vast

structure whose classic pillared entrance is ever an invitation to come in. It looks down on the court from a height of nearly two hundred feet and is a dominant note in the composition. The future treatment of the courts will add to the attractiveness of the place, for it will not be difficult to give to them adequate furnishings. Grass plots will be here and there, with plashing fountains; trees will accentuate the corners, and the greenery of shrubs will relieve the classic architecture. And once within, elevators will take the visitor speedily to the spacious floors above in which the library already finds itself pretty well settled.

A reading room under a dome is already a usual method of treatment, and the disposition of books about its walls and of stacks in a concentric ring does not offer much in the way of novelty. The dimensions are of consequence, however, for the library quarters are within a drum of one hundred and twenty feet diameter, of which the inner circle of seventy-five feet is the reading room with the sweep of the dome, with its Pantheon-like "eye," more than one hundred feet above the floor. The exigencies of New England climate preclude the possibility of maintaining this eye as the open ring that is permissible at Rome, so that it is a glass eye that lights the room, and even on cloudy days affords abundant illumination for the tables below.

In architecture, the interior of the dome meets with the commendation of everyone who views it. It rests on four groups of engaged columns, Corinthian in style and compass-oriented. Pilasters define the limits of the groups, the interval walls being decorated at capital height with walls-of-Troy motifs and panels below, while the inter-columnar spaces are relieved by the grilles of the mezzanine stack room. The cornice of the reading room is a dignified one of dentelles and egg-and-dart, while the parapet member, the drum of the dome, is simple with squared niches paralleled by pilasters in pleasing fashion. The base course of the dome decoration is a band of conventionalized lotus leaves in quintuples.

The great sweep of the dome itself is

cut into four zones of concentric, receding squares, emphasized by a bead fillet within and divided one group from another by twist mouldings with rosette intersections. Above is a clear zone from which rises the narrow drum of the eye, giving in its inner surface an opportunity for concealed illumination by powerful electric lamps.

The whole interior is cream tinted in harmony with the warm luster of the marble bases of the columns in contrast to which are the tables—in arcs of a circle—and the Roman chairs of dark oak. It is a restful room, and if the eye wanders aloft it is charmed with the quiet tones and the wonderful patterns of the cross shadows, hardly more than hinted at along the diagonals of the recessed decoration.

The outer ring of the library floor is devoted first to administration and then to stacks. The delivery room is quite spacious, with its desk projected out into the reading room; the librarian has a suite of offices, and the cataloguing room is conveniently situated with reference to the stack and the receiving office. About two-thirds of the ring is stack, and this is continued in the mezzanine story above the librarian's offices. The plans call for the extension of the stacks in this story which will virtually double the present capacity, while there is large storage space above between the outer and inner domes, which may well care for thousands of volumes for which there is only occasional demand. The stack now in place will care for about 150,000 volumes.

Till now the library of the M. I. T. has been an unconnected group of special libraries housed with the different departments and in different buildings. The departments have sprung into being one after another, and the departmental collections of books, from small beginnings have grown to be important each in its own way. The lack of room in the older structures prevented any attempt at gathering them—altho properly carded in the central catalog—but this has been done most successfully and efficiently in assembling them in Cambridge. The central library may now be described as a general and a reservoir library; it contains the books that are

not of special sciences and the less novel works, together with the periodicals a year or more past. The new books and the current periodicals find places in small departmental libraries located in the departments to which they pertain.

There are really fifteen libraries in the 125,000 volumes belonging to Tech. Of these, the architectural books remain in the Rogers building on Boylston street, Boston, this being now the architectural school of the institute. The collections that are housed in the central library now are the old general library, biological, William Ripley Nichols chemical, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, geological, and the physics library, altho every department has a reservation within its own quarters of latest books and periodicals. These departments are all conveniently situated, being in the buildings clustering most directly about the library itself, electricity and biology being, indeed, within the same wing of the buildings. Quite a good deal of the civil engineering library is retained by the department, and the same is true of history and economics, mathematics, mining and metallurgy, modern languages and naval architecture. Independent libraries are that for women in the Margaret Cheney room and the little library for the students in the Walker Memorial, which are not controlled by the central office.

There will be no time more opportune than the present to pass in brief review the libraries of Technology, which, having been gathered within the last half-century, represent modern ideas towards the formation of an efficient working tool in education. So rapid is progress in the sciences, where it may be literally said that two are springing up where there was one before, that dependence upon periodicals and recent volumes is the more evident. Periodicals, therefore, are to be seen in constantly increasing numbers, and these, as has been said, in current volumes are close at hand to the student in the departmental libraries, while the great mass of back volumes, useful for occasional reference, are in the central stacks.

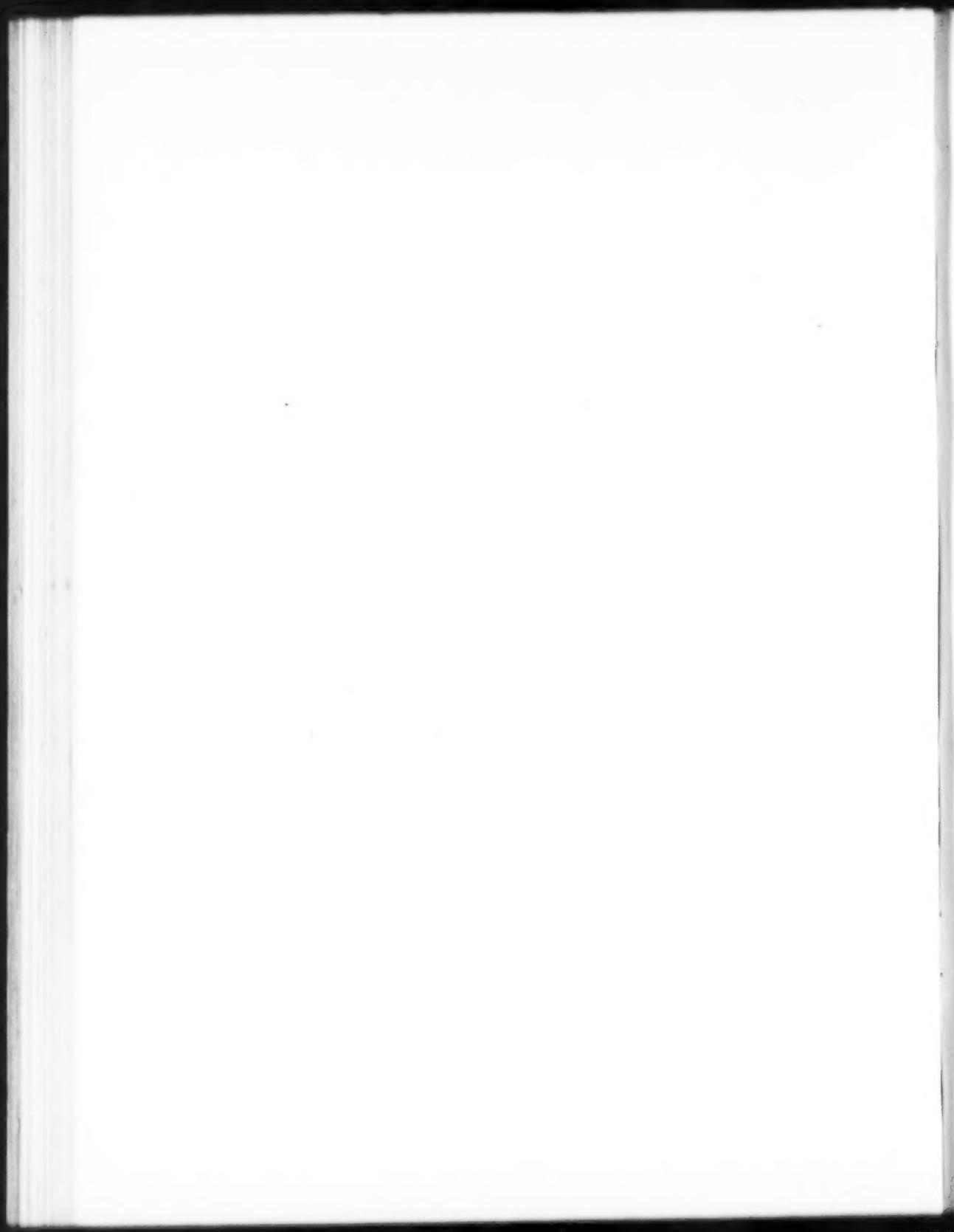
The general library is in reality a com-

bination of volumes for the use of the English department, together with general reference works, and with these a considerable number of volumes for the out-of-school reading for pleasure of the students. This was housed in the Rogers building, and in its reading room were the popular periodicals in various languages for student use. The library of mathematics, named in honor of the late Professor John D. Runkle (professor from 1865 till 1880), has for its nucleus the private collection of Professor Runkle given during his lifetime. It is a carefully selected group of books, about two thousand in number, to which new volumes of merit are added as fast as issued. On account of the very special nature of the library, which appeals principally to the advanced student, is housed by itself under the eye of the department. The library of history and economics includes about 16,000 volumes and several thousand pamphlets which have been gathered about the economic library of the late president, Francis A. Walker (1881-1897). It had thus the best library of its times for its beginnings and ranks to-day among the most important ones of the country. The policy of the institute has been not to duplicate in any large way the splendid collections of the Boston Public Library, so that students are referred to the latter, in which are deposited the books and pamphlets of the American Statistical Association. The economic library, formerly on the fourth floor of the Rogers building, is now in the central library beneath the dome.

The library of modern languages includes about 2000 volumes of works in the languages of Europe, and this again, having limited circulation, is kept in the department to which all the students repair more or less frequently. In older days the libraries of civil and sanitary engineering, together with that of mechanical engineering, were combined in one of the engineering buildings on Trinity place, some 20,000 volumes in all, with 240 current periodicals. A good working library is retained apart from the central library, occupying a tower room on the river front, but the larger part of the volumes have



A SECTION OF THE MAIN READING ROOM IN THE NEW LIBRARY OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



now been assembled under the dome. This collection of books includes the Baldwin library. Loammi Baldwin was the "father of American engineering," a schoolmate of Count Rumford, friend of George Washington and a power in the land in his pioneer day at a time when civil engineering was not yet distinguished from general science. Loammi, the son, carried on his father's great works, was the engineer of the dry docks in Charlestown and Norfolk, and the suggester of the idea of piercing the mountains between Boston and Albany with the Hoosac Tunnel. In a journey to Europe he increased the library inherited from his father with everything available on engineering and science. Two brothers also enriched the collection which represents the time of about 1825. The heiress of one of the brothers, Mrs. C. R. Griffith, presented the collection in 1899 to the Woburn Public Library, Woburn having been the home town of the Baldwin family since 1640. With the demand for space which is felt by every modern library, the librarian at Woburn, Mr. Evans, with the consent of those who might be interested, has deposited the precious antiques and historical volumes in the keeping of Technology, a procedure tending towards a better use of them. There are about 2200 volumes in the Baldwin library, and for historical purposes it is unique.

Altho the department of mining and metallurgy is to occupy the wing adjoining the library structure, it has seemed best to keep its 6000 volumes within department territory. It includes very technical volumes and proceedings, with the back volumes, and receives eighty periodicals. The William Ripley Nichols Chemical Library takes its name from Professor Nichols, an early member of the instructing staff (1869-86), whose private collection of books, bequeathed to the institute, has become the nucleus of its present collection of 13,000 volumes, with many pamphlets. It is particularly valuable from the number of complete sets of the older periodicals.

Physics, like the other departments, retains in its own headquarters a small working set of books, the rest being under the dome where they are very accessible to the

professors and students. There are about 10,000 volumes here.

Important as are the special libraries already mentioned, the comparatively recent gifts to the library of electric engineering place it above any collection of its kind in this country and probably in the world. The recent accessions include the Vail library and the books and periodicals purchased with the fund of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. The department is one of the newer ones at the institute, and its books, apart from those which are in the library of physics, numbered four, or five years ago, about 2000. At this time, however, the gift now designated the Vail library of about thirty thousand titles has placed the library in the front. The great addition consists of the books of the late Mr. Dering, an eccentric Englishman. He had a house at Brighton, and to this his agents in London sent, as they came into the market, a copy of every volume on electricity, old or new, which he did not already possess. The result was some cords of books which the owner had not the opportunity to enjoy, for he visited this home only three or four days a year, about Christmas. On his death the library came into the market and thru Mr. Vail's agency was purchased and given to Tech. During the work of cataloging the library is being kept apart, but in the end it will be placed with the others under the dome. The present tally is 13,120 items cataloged, with 44,300 cards, the total cards for the whole M. I. T. library being about 200,000. The gift of the A. T. & T. Co. includes a maintenance fund and another for the purchase of periodicals and new volumes. There has been much activity in the binding of books in this section of the library. The geological library, which had for its beginning the books of William Barton Rogers, the founder of the institute, includes about 2500 volumes. These being largely reports and volumes of technical maps, are as a whole more nearly reference books than some of the other collections, and these books remain in the custody of the department. There are more than 4000 titles in the library of biology, which from its

proximity to the general library is very conveniently cared for by the general staff, with every opportunity for its use, while the library of naval architecture, some 2000 volumes and pamphlets, is cared for by the department itself. The Pratt School of Naval Architecture will presently take its place in the group of structures of the New Technology, and here the special technical treatises will be most conveniently placed for service. For the present, therefore, the library is housed in the temporary quarters of the department.

Since the school of architecture is for the present at least quite apart in location from the other departments, occupying as it does the whole of the Rogers building, the former administrative headquarters, the library will be housed in this building on Boylston street, Boston. It contains 5000 volumes of technical works and a carefully selected collection of 18,000 photographs and 16,000 lantern slides. It is perhaps the best working library for architectural study in the country, and is supplemented in its art aspects by the unrivaled showings of the Boston Public Library and the Boston Art Museum, both conveniently at hand.

The total in figures for the whole M. I. T. library is 125,000 volumes and 50,000 pamphlets, in a collection that in a number of specialties is without peer in the country.

Two small collections of books are to be found in the institute, in addition to the private libraries of various of the professional staff. These are in the Margaret Cheney room, a collection of about 600 volumes for the use of the women students, books of a light character or for reference, while for the students there is a collection of about 400 volumes, formerly in the Union and now waiting for the completion of the Walker Memorial, the general all-Tech clubhouse. Once established there it will undoubtedly prove a nucleus to a larger collection wherewith to while away any unoccupied hours.

The removal of the vast quantity of the Technology equipment from the old buildings to the new has been looked upon as an engineering feat of no mean proportions, since it involved some thousands of tons,

sometimes large pieces, the bed of one of the testing machines, for example, weighing twenty-five tons. It was done entirely by the institute with its own trucks and help. The moving of the library was, however, not only a heavy job, but one involving a large amount of planning, since its task was to assemble in one stack and under one classification the contents of no less than nine scattered libraries. The task was further complicated by the fact that portions of each library were to be selected for the departmental reference rooms, while the rest were to go to the stacks under the dome.

All this was done in true engineering fashion by the librarian, Dr. R. P. Bigelow, who not only pressed the library staff into service, but also the members of his family who did efficient service in planning and overseeing the removal.

A unit system of boxes was employed for all the removals of light or small material at Tech. Three sizes were employed, one of which conforms well with the size of the standard shelf in the new stack. A study was made of the varied shelving in all the old libraries, plottings were made of the shelves, the department heads marked the sections to be reserved for the new departmental libraries, the divisions were made and the boxes marked in accordance so that when the boxes were packed the separation was made. Each box was labelled with the number of the room of its destination, or shelf in the stack, and but for the fact that the new library was not quite ready on schedule time—due to the extreme difficulty in getting any kind of labor—the books would have made a direct journey from their former shelves to their new shelf in stack or department. Much of the labor was avoided by loading the boxes direct thru a chute from the library windows to the trucks, while the receipt was cared for by ingenious, hydraulic trucks, which could be separated from their burdens without unloading, and returned when desired to take again their loads.

About 6000 boxes were required to hold the books, and these were delivered at night in reasonable quantities at the front

of the stack, and janitors and assistants without technical knowledge, under the supervision of a library assistant, placed them on their shelves. It required team play on the part of the library staff, but the whole undertaking was accomplished without confusion and with the minimum of handling of the volumes.

JOHN RITCHIE, JR.

BINDING SPECIFICATIONS FOR SCHOOLS

An interesting news item has just been received by the A. L. A. Bookbinding Committee which shows the possibilities of securing a satisfactory grade of school binding by the adoption, by local school boards, of the specifications prepared by the association's committee on bookbinding. In 1915 the committee's specifications were submitted to the public school board of Los Angeles, with the suggestion that they be made the basis for securing local bids on the binding for all public school books. This suggestion was carried out, and the work was done according to specifications for the school year 1915-1916. Information from Los Angeles (dated Nov. 23, 1916) says: "The binder who took this year's contract in July and then flagrantly ignored the specifications has been brought to time, made to pay a rebate on all the work done, and had his contract cancelled.

"The board has affirmed its intention to maintain the existing specifications (A. L. A.) and has ordered advertising for new bids on the work.

"This outcome would have been possible on no other condition than that the specifications are vouched for by a national organization, and are therefore believed to be in the interest of the schools and no particular binder. The board did not assume to have any technical knowledge of bookbinding, but merely upheld the specification as authoritative."

It is to be hoped that school boards will adopt the association's specifications and thereby secure a good grade of work for the same expenditure that in many cases purchases very unsatisfactory binding.

JOSEPH L. WHEELER,
Chairman Bookbinding Committee.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

In his annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, says that he had purposed to consider the present state of the library's collections, but found that the inclusion of such a study would add unduly to the bulk of the report. Consequently he reserves this estimate of the library's resources for a later occasion.

Among the staff changes noted in the report are the return of J. David Thompson to the legislative reference division; the death of A. J. Parsons, chief of the prints division, and the appointment of Prof. Richard A. Rice as acting chief; the resignation from the catalog division of Mrs. A. F. Stevens and Miss Julia Gregory; the resignation of Dr. E. M. Borchard, law librarian; the appointment of Theodore W. Koch as chief of the order division; and of Dr. A. Palmieri to assist in systematizing and perfecting the collection of Slavic literature. The call upon the National Guard for active service at the border drew from the staff at the outset no less than 17 employes. Twelve were retained in active service and their places in the library are being held for them.

Following the recommendations in the 1915 report, slight increases of salary, though less than recommended, were voted in the salaries of 110 persons receiving from \$720 to \$900, inclusive. Further increases, particularly in the lower grades, are again recommended.

The report shows the library to contain 2,451,974 books, a gain of 88,101 volumes over the previous year. In addition there are 154,200 maps and charts, 770,248 volumes and pieces of music, and 392,905 prints.

While no considerable collection of books was received by gift during the year, the aggregate of gifts from thousands of sources, private, corporate and official, reached the considerable total of 28,285 volumes. For large additions to the Chinese, Japanese and Korean collections the library is indebted to the interest and enterprise of Dr. Walter T. Swingle of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who visited the

Far East in 1915 and purchased on behalf of the library a total of 5892 volumes. The report contains a full account of the most important of these purchases as well as of some valuable works presented thru Dr. Swingle.

In the manuscript division the Lincoln documents are the most interesting accessions of the year. They are the two drafts of the Gettysburg address, which Mr. Lincoln prepared shortly before he delivered it; the draft of the second inaugural address; and the memorandum which he prepared, August 23, 1864, stating that it seemed probable that he would lose the coming election, in which event he would co-operate with the President-elect to save the Union. This memorandum he sealed at the time, and each member of the Cabinet, at his request, indorsed it, without knowing what it contained. After the election the seal was broken, and the memorandum read to the Cabinet. Speaking from the standpoint of their value to historical science, such collections as the papers of Alexander Hamilton, of General Sumter, of William Learned Marcy, of J. C. Bancroft Davis, of S. F. B. Morse, and the Taggart collection of documents relating to the early history of the District of Columbia, the Beauregard letter books, and the 360 log-books of 61 British war vessels, running from 1808 to 1840, have enriched the library's stores to a noteworthy extent. Transcripts from British, French, and Spanish archives continue to come in steadily. The French papers are chiefly concerned with correspondence with colonial officials in Louisiana between 1731 and 1751, while the Spanish transcripts pertain to the early history of the Southwest.

Accessions in the documents division numbered 23,676 volumes and 29,447 pamphlets. The special feature of the year's work was an effort to complete the files of official publications of the Latin American countries, made exceptionally fruitful thru a visit made to these countries by the law librarian, Dr. E. M. Borchard (recently resigned). The library's collection of Latin American documents may now be considered one of its important features.

The total accessions in the law library

were 6841, and its total contents now number 175,560. Lack of adequate shelf room has again made necessary the removal of many books from this library to the main building. The plan of acquiring one copy of all session laws prior to 1800, two copies from 1800 to 1839, and three copies from 1840 to date has been carried forward substantially during the year. Nearly the entire collection of American and English treatises has now been recataloged. The additions to the collections of Latin American law resulting from Dr. Borchard's trip to South America were the most noteworthy feature of the year.

The most important of the 6647 accessions of the year to the division of maps is a set of the Larger Atlas of Reiner Ottens, published in seven volumes probably between 1729 and 1740. The maps are by the most distinguished cartographers of that period. The last volume contains the American material and has the highly prized Ottens view of New York which in itself sells as a separate for about one-third of the amount which the library paid for the whole set. Photographic reproductions of maps relating to the early history of North America have been secured from the Library of Parliament of Canada and from the British Museum.

The music division now contains (estimated) 771,620 volumes, pamphlets, and pieces. (Music: 717,739; literature of music: 33,848, including librettos; musical instruction: 20,033, including teaching pieces, etudes, and other music of an instructive type.) Total accessions for the year were 43,812. Purchases of early musical Americana exceeded all expectations, over 500 pieces of early American music being secured from one collector. The American composer and the American music publisher are beginning to prefer the national to a local library as the permanent custodian of manuscript scores, and two music publishing houses have made generous gifts to the department this year. All purchased music is cataloged as a matter of course, and its classification and cataloging is done in the music division, but books on music are cataloged in the catalog division.

The periodical division received 8154

periodicals during the year, exclusive of the numerous serials, almanacs, yearbooks, annual reports, etc., frequently classed with periodicals. The number of newspapers received was 880, of which 776 were American and 104 foreign. Of these 217 American, and 89 foreign, papers are saved for binding. Owing to an insufficient fund for binding newspapers, a smaller number of volumes than usual was bound. Arrears last year were 824 volumes and are now over 2000, and unless this can soon be remedied, there is serious danger of mutilation and loss in these unbound files. The transfer of service of bound newspapers from the main reading room to the periodical room has been highly satisfactory. A notable addition to the collection of American eighteenth century newspapers thru the purchase of 750 duplicates from the Massachusetts Historical Society.

The division of prints has added 7148 pieces, making a total of 392,905. The work of forming a collection of illustrated books has been carried forward so as to show the progress of illustration from the Middle Ages to the present time, either by originals or reproductions. Illuminated manuscripts and the best of the fifteenth and early sixteenth century illustrated books must of necessity be represented mainly by facsimiles, but the constant endeavor is to secure these reproductions in as early and perfect a state as possible. The numerous illustrated books in the library, acquired for the most part without reference to the quality of the illustration or even the fact of illustration, are now being sifted and arranged. The division has lent to 10 governmental departments, societies, and 35 educational institutions 15,524 photographs, etc., of paintings, sculpture, and architecture, and to the American Federation of Arts three collections of engravings for exhibition purposes.

In the Semitic and Oriental division nearly all of the Hebrew material contained in the two Deinard collections was put in order. More than 16,000 books and pamphlets of ancient and modern Hebrew have been placed on the shelves, arranged according to subject matter, and made ready

for use. The work of the division was mainly concentrated upon the preparation of the books of the Hebrew collections for binding and upon their cataloging and classification. Arrangements for printing the cards of the Hebrew books already cataloged are now under consideration. The division has also been engaged in devising and preparing a new classification scheme for Hebrew and Yiddish books. This new classification scheme is to be for permanent use, replacing the present one, which is merely a rough and temporary division of the books in order to make them accessible to readers generally. A considerable collection of Yiddish literature has also been formed in this division. The demand for Arabic, Hebrew, and Yiddish books has increased during the year, both from individuals and institutions. Work on the Chinese collections was resumed in the latter part of the year, and some changes made in the classification.

The number of volumes bound was 28,404. Of the total 7159 were bound in leather, and 17,658 in buckram; the remainder in cloth and duck.

The number of volumes cataloged was 102,465, of which 78,077 were new accessions and 24,388 recataloged, an increase of 2600 volumes over the preceding year. The recataloging of English, German, and Italian literature was continued during the year. About three-fifths of the number of volumes recataloged belong to those classes, the remainder being distributed among all other classes, with American history and law predominating.

The copy prepared by the card distribution division with the co-operation of the Smithsonian Institution—for a complete set of analytical cards for all Smithsonian publications not heretofore analyzed—was carefully revised, and uniform sets of printed cards are now available for distribution. The entire collection of uncataloged dissertations has been arranged by years and subarranged alphabetically by author to the third or fourth letter, so that requests for these can now be readily answered. Dissertations of substantial interest, treating of subjects in which the li-

brary specializes, are cataloged and transferred to the classified collections of the library. The expansion of the public card catalog is a subject of concern requiring attention in the near future.

The portion of the library now under the new classification contains 1,548,500 volumes. Great progress has been made in eliminating remnants of the old classification. Practically all of the old chapters have now been reclassified, except such as contain works on Religion, Law, and the few groups of literature the reclassification of which has not yet begun. The most pressing need is the classification of Religion, which it is earnestly hoped may soon be begun and carried forward without serious interruption. A list of forty-four libraries using the Library of Congress classification in whole or part is given.

Depository libraries containing complete sets of the Library of Congress catalog cards now number 48, while 40 libraries of the United States Government have partial depository sets. Eleven government libraries now co-operate in the printing of the catalog cards, the latest to be added to the list being the Library of the Surgeon General's Office. As that library is making a nearly exhaustive collection of the current books on medicine the addition of cards for its entries will greatly strengthen the stock as regards this class of books.

Besides the complete sets thus deposited the library has sold cards to over 2300 libraries, and the receipts from sale—representing some 7,000,000 cards sold—totaled nearly \$70,000.

The adoption of a uniform type for the use of the blind seems imminent to the assistant in charge of the reading room for the blind. It is anticipated that an agreement may be arrived at between the British and American co-workers which will result in a solution of this big problem.

Supplementing the usual report, there is a rather full analysis of the operations of the Legislative Reference Service, which in completing its second year has also completed the period of a long and a short session of Congress.

In the forty-five years during which the copyright work has been a part of the business of the Library of Congress the number of entries totaled 2,932,397. During the past nineteen years the net receipts of the office, above expenses for service, were \$240,688.40. During the last fiscal year 18,357 volumes were transferred to the library from the deposits in the Copyright Office and 5452 volumes deposited in governmental libraries in the District of Columbia.

THE LIBRARY SITUATION IN MISSISSIPPI

In an effort to find out the exact condition of the libraries, both public and institutional, thruout the State of Mississippi, a comprehensive library survey of the state was undertaken in October, 1915, by Whitman Davis, librarian of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College. In the July *Bulletin* of the college, under the title "The library situation in Mississippi," he gives the results of his investigations. The absence of any widespread interest in libraries is clearly shown, and a lack of co-operation on the part of many who should have been vitally interested has hindered somewhat the completion of the survey. The statistical data gathered together, however, will give an idea of what has been provided in the way of libraries, and of the large field waiting for development.

The first group considered covers the public libraries of the state—only 20 in all, nine in Carnegie buildings. One is exclusively for negroes. The largest one has less than ten thousand volumes and the smallest has 368. The number of hours the libraries are open each week range from two to 72.

Of libraries in colleges and preparatory schools there are 30, including five in schools for negroes. The State Library, with 90,000 volumes, is included in this group. The next largest are those of the University of Mississippi, with 30,000 volumes and the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College with 27,000 volumes. The smallest is the Y. M. C. A. Library

at Tupelo with 300 books. Hours open each week vary from five to 66.

In 41 county agricultural high schools reporting, 11 have no library. The largest one has 510 volumes and the smallest, 15. In three cases the library is supported from the school funds, in a few others library fees are charged, and the rest depend on concerts, gifts, etc.

In 126 schools carrying high school instruction, 23 have no library; only 13 have more than 1000 volumes; and the others vary in size from 30 volumes to a thousand. Only 19 are supported from the school funds, and this support is supplemented by gifts, which are the main dependence of the rest, with such money as can be raised by concerts and other entertainments.

In 14 other separate districts not carrying high school instruction are seven libraries altogether, with a combined total of 936 volumes and 100 pamphlets. Only one added any books last year.

County superintendents of education reported on the libraries in the common schools in their districts, tho in many instances the reports were incomplete. In the 79 counties, three were entirely lacking in libraries. In the others the number of libraries varied from one to 50, with a total in all counties of 1171, of which only 412 received county aid. The number of volumes reported in these libraries totalled 46,646.

Aside from the tables summarized above, each town or institution in each group is the subject of a separate paragraph in which its library conditions are described with more precision.

Summing up all the information he has brought together, Mr. Davis writes: "With one or two exceptions, public libraries have held their beginning in Mississippi since 1900. . . . College libraries have had their beginning simultaneously with the colleges themselves, and thus are not of so recent origin as the public libraries. For instance, Jefferson Military College Library was established in 1820, and the University Library in 1849. These and other college libraries have exerted a potent influence on the lives of our people, and, in a large measure, have been respon-

sible for so many well selected private libraries in the state. It is a regrettable fact that our college libraries are not being developed as they should be to meet the increasing demands made upon them. There should be trained helpers in sufficient numbers to catalog all books, bulletins and pamphlets properly so that the public could have access to all the material in the library. . . . This is especially needed in college libraries. . . .

"The agricultural high school is so new that its library is necessarily poorly developed. However, the authorities are, to some extent, overlooking the great need of well equipped libraries, and are devoting only a small per cent. of the school funds to this purpose. In a majority of these high schools no part of the school funds is used for the purchase of books for reading. Usually the library is started and maintained with the net proceeds of pay entertainments, etc. Just why our teachers are forced to resort to such measures is a question that we would do well to answer. It seems that it would be quite as proper for them to have to resort to such measures to secure money to pay their own salaries. The fact that this condition is allowed to exist is due probably to the fact that the school library in Mississippi is not yet looked upon as a necessity, but rather as a luxury. Only recently the writer heard an educator, the father of several children, make the statement that the public schools have no need for school libraries. There need be no great surprise that the public are seemingly so indifferent to this important subject, when an experienced teacher fails to appreciate the need. If there were enough public libraries so that all the children could have access to them, then the schools would not have so much need for independent libraries as at present. The writer believes that in some way the State Department of Education should keep in close touch with the school libraries, and that the principals of all public schools should be required to make annual reports on their libraries to the county superintendents, who should in turn report to the State Superintendent.

"All high schools other than agricultural

high schools should be treated in a similar manner. Their libraries should be supported by school funds. The county superintendents should be required to get complete reports on their libraries and include the same in the annual reports made to the State Superintendent. If the pupils in any of the high schools will agree to it, the authorities might do well to charge an annual library fee to be used for the support of the library. This is suggested as a means of making a live library possible at the present time. This fee could be discontinued whenever more suitable provision should be made for the support of the library.

"Perhaps the greatest indifference and waste in school libraries are to be found in the common schools. There is absolutely no system in the control of these libraries. The county furnishes money to assist in the starting of the school library, yet the county superintendent neglects to give it proper supervision after it has been started. A great many of the books are allowed to be lost during the summer months. In many of the counties, the county superintendents do not know how many libraries are in their counties nor the number of books in any of the libraries. The present method is wasteful. A similar one was discarded by New York State about three-quarters of a century ago. . . . There ought to be a county inspector of libraries, whose duty it should be to keep in close touch with the whole library system of all public schools. The county superintendent should keep on record in his office such information as the number of school libraries, of volumes of books, and of pamphlets, the number added during the year, and the value of books, pamphlets, etc., and this information should be reported to the State Superintendent annually. For the sake of continuity, the State Department of Education should be required to collect the information and include it in his biennial report to the Legislature. The great need seems to be proper supervision and accountability, as well as better libraries."

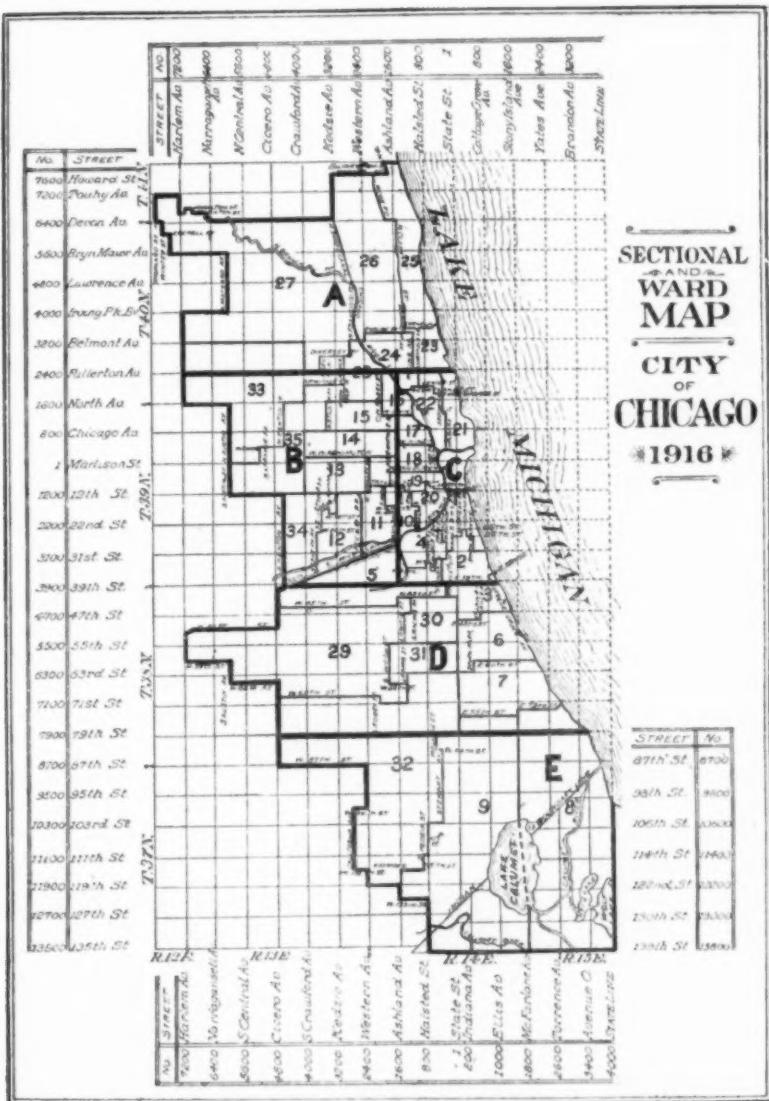
This supervision Mr. Davis believes can best be secured by establishing a system of

county libraries, and after presenting his arguments for such a system he submits the text of a county library law modelled on the California law, which has been endorsed by the State Library Association and the State Teachers' Association, and which is suggested for enactment into law by the Legislature at its next session.

CHICAGO'S PLAN OF REGIONAL LIBRARIES

A COMPLETE reorganization of the circulation system of the Chicago Public Library is provided in plans approved by the library board Nov. 27 and an appropriation of \$500,000 is to be asked from the city. The recommendation and plans were to be sent to the City Council immediately. If approved a bond issue will be submitted to the people at the spring election. The present system, with its small delivery stations scattered about the city, the difficulties of distribution and the increasing complaints from the public, have made a reorganization imperative. Under the reorganization program of the library board, there will be established:

1. *Five Regional Branches*, situated as follows:
 - A—Ravenswood
 - B—Garfield Park
 - C—Loop
 - D—Englewood
 - E—South Chicago
2. *Seventy Auxiliary or Local Branches*, equally distributed where most needed, and where largest groups of population live. There are now 35, unequally distributed.
3. *Sixty Deposit Stations*, in more sparsely settled sections, or as many more as may be necessary to supply places not otherwise served. There are now 28.
4. *One hundred Industrial and Commercial Branches*, or as many more as business concerns are willing to equip and maintain. There are now 21.
5. *Twenty-two High School Branches*, if suitable quarters are provided by the school authorities. There are now 5.
6. *Three thousand Class Room Libraries*, or as many as may be needed (traveling



collections of 50 volumes each supervised by teachers and exchanged twice a year). There are now 848.

7. *One hundred Special Deposits* (or more, if needed), supplied to Y. M. C. A. houses, Eleanor clubs, organizations to foreign groups, women's clubs, institutions, special groups like telegraph messengers, postal clerks, etc. These deposits are traveling collections of 50 to 100 volumes, exchanged monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly. There are now 29.

Each regional branch will have: A floating collection of 50,000 volumes for use of auxiliary or local branches, as needed, thru daily delivery service; a reference collection suitably balanced, for use of research workers, students, business men, women's clubs, etc., supplemented by daily delivery from the Main Library of special material not duplicated in the regional branches; trained assistants to conduct story hours, reference librarians, to assist club workers, teachers, etc.; suitable collections of books in foreign languages, for redistribution to local centers where foreign groups are located; an automobile delivery truck, with garage for housing, to distribute books daily in agencies of the district.

Some striking improvements will be made possible thru this reorganization plan. The Public Library will then be in a position to serve well 700,000 persons who now get no library service by reason of distance or who are but indifferently served. A maximum travel of 32 miles to consult special reference material or to draw music scores for home use will be reduced to an average of less than one mile. Automobile delivery routes will be reduced from 32 miles per round trip to six miles, enabling a unit delivery five times greater than now, and without additional cost. Library service will be placed within walking distance of home for every person in the city of Chicago who can read or wants to use books, in place of being compelled to ride on street cars forth and back, an average of 10 miles for more than one-half the population.

To find one's work is to find one's place in the world.—RICHARD C. CABOT.

CARNEGIE CORPORATION LIBRARY GRANTS

September, 1916

South Pasadena, California	\$ 6,000
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November, 1916

ORIGINAL GIFTS, UNITED STATES

Almont, Michigan (village and township)	\$ 8,000
Brookfield, Missouri	12,000
Burley, Idaho	10,000
Canton, Kansas (city and town- ship)	6,000
Cape Girardeau, Missouri	20,000
Chase City, Virginia	6,500
Converse Town and Jackson Town- ship, Indiana	9,000
Corry, Pennsylvania	15,000
David City, Nebraska	10,000
Inglewood, California	10,000
La Grange Town and Bloomfield Township, Indiana	10,000
Lexington, Nebraska	10,000
Merom Town and Gill Township, Indiana	10,000
Oklmulgee, Oklahoma	15,000
Port Angeles, Washington	12,500
Randolph, Nebraska	6,000
Ravenna, Nebraska	7,500
Red Cloud, Nebraska	8,000
Saugus, Massachusetts	14,000
Shelbina, Missouri	10,000
Springville, Utah	10,000
Sterling, Kansas	10,000

\$235,500

INCREASES—UNITED STATES

Atlanta, Georgia (colored branch building—building to cost \$25,000)	\$15,000
Big Horn County (Hardin) Montana (building to cost \$15,000)	7,500
Caldwell, New Jersey (building to cost \$10,000)	2,500
Chadron, Nebraska	788
Denver, Colorado (four branch buildings)	80,000
Macon, Georgia (building to cost \$50,000)	30,000
Milford Junction Town and Van Buren Township, Indiana (to provide for Jefferson Township—building to cost \$10,000)	3,000

Milo, Maine (building to cost \$7,000)	2,000
Nashville, Tennessee (branch building)	25,000
White Plains, New York (addition)	18,000

	\$183,788

ARGENTINA'S NATIONAL LIBRARY

A WRITER in the *Christian Science Monitor* of Nov. 6 gives an interesting résumé of the growth of the National Library in Buenos Aires.

"It certainly cannot be said that Argentina is a land of public libraries such as the United States, for instance," says the *Monitor's* correspondent. "This is due partly, perhaps, to the fact that the Argentine Republic has no such men as Andrew Carnegie, but there are other important factors.

"As far as can be gathered from historical sources, the National Library, or, as it was originally called, the Biblioteca Popular de Buenos Aires, dates from the year 1810, when it was founded by Dr. Mariano Moreno, who was the president of the first assembly of the patriots of Buenos Aires. The original plan was to establish a reading room with library attached formed from the collection of books presented by the bishop of Buenos Aires, Dr. Manuel Azamor y Ramirez. A government decree in that year also ordained that the library of Bishop Orellana and the books belonging to other state offenders be confiscated and formed into a public library.

"At the same time a public subscription was authorized and a managing committee, consisting of Fray Cayetano Rodriguez, Dr. Mariano Moreno and Señor Saturnino Segurola was appointed. At the end of three months it was announced that the popular subscription had produced 16,670 'pesos fuertes' and 891 volumes, apart from donations made by booksellers and publishers. The first time the number of volumes was counted was in 1823, under the direction of Dr. Mariano Moreno. According to these returns there were 17,229 volumes in the library, which total was found to be reduced to 15,397 in 1852, when Dr. Tejedor presented his first report.

"The library has published four catalogs of the volumes on its shelves, but the first really methodical catalog did not appear until 1903. In 1885 there were 34,274 works in the National Library. In 1893 the total number of volumes amounted to 62,707, and at the close of the year 1911 there were 128,203 works in 206,119 volumes, classified as follows: Law 36,036, history 38,561, literature 40,724, pamphlets 58,916, newspapers 3044, and maps 1592. The total number of volumes to-day exceeds 300,000.

"The development of this historic institution has been very pronounced during the past ten years, but its expansion has not kept pace with the progress made by other centers of culture and learning. The oldest works in the National Library date from the epoch of its foundation, since the old parchment bound books and ancient folios with marginal notes are lying crumbling in the inaccessible bookcases in the churches of Santo Domingo and San Francisco."

THE MAYO CLINIC LIBRARY

THE Mayo Clinic Library occupies the southwest corner of the third floor of the Clinic building. It comprises an unpacking room where reprints of the institution's publications are stored, a duplicate room, a stack room and a beautiful reading room. In the latter are kept the newest books and the most recent numbers of the 150 journals. The woodwork, walls and draperies are the same brown as the big leather chairs. There are oriental rugs, bronze lamps and an unfailing supply of palms and flowers from the Clinic conservatory. The stack room contains 6000 volumes and 12,000 reprints, all medical, with a capacity of more than twice that number. The present appropriation provides for an annual increase of some 2000 volumes.

A doctor who is preparing an article or any special and extensive research, indicates the subject and a bibliography is typed on catalog cards. Books are placed on his special table to remain until he is thru with them. Whatever the library does not contain is borrowed, abstracting or translat-

ing is done when desired, stenographers and dictaphones are always available. Duplicates of the leading journals and a messenger service from the library provide for the hospital interns nearly a mile away.

With the exception of Christmas and Easter the library is open twelve hours on week days and four on Sundays. A code of rules was once drawn up by the members of the Clinic but it has lapsed into innocuous desuetude. Each of the hundred men feels it is his private library and to the visiting physician is extended the old-time Spanish proverb, "The place is yours for as long as you care to stay."

F. S. C. JAMES.

PLAYGROUND AND LIBRARY WORK TOGETHER IN BINGHAMTON

THREE thousand children attended the thirteen playgrounds in operation in Binghamton, N. Y., this past summer. These were in charge of twenty-six supervisors, and were provided with equipment for manual instruction and for out-door sports and games.

The children's librarian spoke at the first meeting of the supervisors, calling attention to the resources of the library which would be especially useful to them. Several of them took large numbers of working diagrams for bird houses, others took books on wood-working and carpentry, still others took books on model aeroplanes.

Ten of the supervisors asked for traveling libraries. To these were sent 381 books, which reported a circulation of 1002.

One playground in the Slovak district called the hour from four to five, "library hour," and allowed the books to be read but not to be taken home. They reported that many older children came for this hour who did not attend earlier in the day.

The children's librarian visited many of the playgrounds, telling stories to the younger children.

The work of the different playgrounds was exhibited in the Public Library, Aug. 28-30, and about fifteen hundred people viewed the exhibit. The girls made aprons, dresses, and laundry bags, crocheted mats,

embroidered towels, wove miniature rugs and real baskets. The boys made hall trees, tables, benches, model aeroplanes that would fly, bird houses, and doll houses, for which they made the furniture. Many of these were complete to the last detail, and the unconscious effect of the traveling library was seen in a tiny bookcase filled with imitation books.

The co-operation of the library was an active force thruout the summer, and its influence was seen in every feature of the exhibit.

ELLEN F. CHAMBERLAYNE.

THE Drama League of America and the New York Public Library have arranged an exhibition illustrating the American drama from 1714 to the present time, consisting of the texts of American plays, play-bills, posters and manuscripts. The exhibition was open to the public Nov. 1, and will remain open till Feb. 1, 1917, in the main exhibition room of the Central Building of the Library. The Drama League is giving especial attention, this year, to the American drama. For that reason, this exhibition is held, and a "Study list of American drama," prepared by Montrose S. Moses, will be on sale at the exhibition. Moreover, a series of revivals of American plays has been planned at one of the theaters of this city.

American Library Association

VOLUNTEERS FOR CLASSIFICATION-MAKING

The decimal classification advisory committee of the American Library Association has completed its canvass of American libraries using the decimal classification.

The committee now knows the popular needs the decimal classification is asked to fill and proposes to act immediately in accordance with these demands.

For quick and yet sure results we must have the active help of many library workers.

The committee herewith calls all who will help, under instruction, in this work of classification-making, whether experienced or inexperienced, to correspond immediately with its secretary.

A. LAW VOGE,
Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco, Cal.

Library Organizations

EASTERN COLLEGE LIBRARIANS

On Saturday, December 2, 1916, the fifth annual conference of Eastern College Librarians was held in Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia University, fifty-two persons representing eighteen colleges and universities being present. The purpose of these meetings is not the presentation of formal papers, but free discussion of library problems of special interest to college librarians, heads of departments and assistants. As a basis for discussion, six or eight topics are printed in the announcement of the meeting, but any other subject may be substituted for those announced. It has become the tradition of the conference to meet at Columbia University on the Saturday following Thanksgiving.

The meeting of 1916 was welcomed by Provost W. H. Carpenter, acting librarian of Columbia University. Dr. Carpenter spoke of some of the problems of library administration, made more evident to him since taking up his present duties, and expressed the conviction that every administrative officer of a university should be obliged to take a short course in library administration. He also touched on the present difficulties arising from the non-receipt of German scientific periodicals, suggesting that the librarians take action similar to that recently taken by the Association of American Universities, and present a resolution to the State department, emphasizing the difficulties of the situation and asking that steps be taken to lift the embargo.

Mr. Austen of Cornell then took the chair. He raised the question whether some time other than the Saturday after Thanksgiving might perhaps be more convenient for the meeting of the conference. A motion to this effect was made and lost. Mr. Austen then called on Mr. Rainey of Johns Hopkins University for a report on the problem of importing German periodicals, the matter having already been put into the hands of a committee of the A. L. A. Mr. Rainey stated in some detail the workings of the British orders in council as affecting the forwarding of items covered by standing orders lodged thru agents, and the various schemes of amendment suggested; and reported that, as a result of the activities of Dr. Putnam of the Library of Congress and the efforts of the committee, there is reason to hope for relief from the present situation, at least so far as orders covering the present year are concerned. For 1917 he suggested that orders shuld be placed with

regular agents as in the past, and no special permits, either for direct consignments or consignments to specified agents, be asked for yet. It is probable that some scheme may be devised for censoring all consignments at Rotterdam without necessitating individual action. Mr. Rainey laid emphasis on the invaluable aid that Dr. Putnam has furnished in the dealings with the British representatives. It was suggested that the Smithsonian Institution might well extend its normal intermediary exchange functions, and act as sponsor for all material shipped directly to it; and also that periodicals might be obtained thru Blackwell, or other agents having permits in England; but no action was taken on the matter, it being felt that everything possible was already being done.

The subject of union lists for periodicals was the next taken up. Miss Laura Gibbs of Columbia University Library opened the discussion. After enumerating briefly the union lists now existent or in process, she based her paper mainly upon the proposition of Mr. H. W. Wilson to issue union lists serving all sections of the country, and upon a questionnaire submitted by him regarding the value of such lists. The consensus of opinion seeming to be in their favor, provided they were sufficiently inclusive and detailed, she attempted next to define the term "sufficiently inclusive," and to discover the appropriate means of securing lists satisfying that prescription. Her idea that such lists, to be of value, should contain the *unusual* things, rarely found, was substantiated in the later discussion. With regard to arrangement, she suggested that there might well be six or seven sections, each having a group of several large libraries as its nucleus.

Prof. D. E. Smith, librarian of the American Mathematical Society, presented the scheme now on foot for a mathematics list, and Mr. Wilson gave in greater detail what his plan would be, suggesting a single *check list*, with full bibliographical information, and several union lists with abbreviated title entries and inclusive volumes. He also suggested a possible scheme for financing the proposition.

The discussion which followed brought out some of the reasons why such lists would be of value to large lending as well as to smaller borrowing libraries, and while recognizing the limitations of the device, emphasized all its points of usefulness. After the recess for luncheon, which was held in the Faculty Club, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That we recommend the plan of

publishing co-operative union lists of sets of periodicals, and approve the proposition to apportion the entire United States into districts. We would welcome a more definite statement as to the methods of financing and publishing such lists."

The afternoon session presided over by Mr. Keogh, of Yale University, was devoted to ten minute talks and brief discussion of the remaining items on the program: (1) The aim of the university library—inclusiveness or exclusiveness? (2) The A. L. A. cataloging test; (3) How to keep everything cataloged up to date; (4) Staff manuals for university libraries; (5) What are college and university libraries doing for undergraduate reading?

Mr. Koopman suggested that the policy of exclusiveness *vs.* inclusiveness may be largely governed by situation, a library of an institution remote from a large center and from other libraries of necessity retaining much material which one in close proximity to a large public or other special library would rely on the latter to preserve. With regard to gifts, he recommended extreme latitude of treatment. Mr. Heald said that Harvard's policy was to retain all gift material not duplicates.

Reports on the results of the A. L. A. cataloging tests at Yale and Columbia made it apparent that it is impossible so to standardize conditions as to make the results of any practical value.

Descriptions of methods of listing all accessionings and placing brief entries in the catalog, so as to make all material promptly accessible, were described by Dr. Richardson of Princeton University and Mr. Wyer of the New York State Library. These methods were approved as useful makeshifts, but not as substitutes for full bibliographical entries.

The matter of staff manuals, or codes, was taken up by Mr. Austen. He suggested that some sort of code, indicating modes of procedure in different departments, duties of different positions, etc., would be of great value in promoting efficiency and uniformity. He gave specimens from such a code, which he has been developing, and various more or less extensive attempts in that direction were reported from other libraries.

As regards reading for undergraduates, Mr. Briggs, of Harvard University, voiced his belief that the various professors are best fitted to suggest "reading lists" etc., but that the libraries may well co-operate by issuing lists, making pleasure reading easily available. Some felt that the library can do much work with students of a sort not possible for the pro-

fessors, and such means as the undergraduate library at Yale, the students' reading or browsing room at Bryn Mawr, and some others were cited. Before adjournment, the motion was made and unanimously carried that the conference extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Hicks of Columbia Law Library for preparing the programs of this and previous meetings, and he was requested to continue in his present office as secretary-treasurer.

MARGARET ROYS, *Secretary pro-tem.*

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION—EASTERN DISTRICT

At the call of George W. Lee, librarian for Stone & Webster, Boston, and councilor for the Special Libraries Association, Eastern District, H. C. Wellman, H. O. Brigham, and J. G. Moulton, about 55 librarians of special libraries of southern New England met at New Haven, Ct., Dec. 8-9, 1916. The general topics for discussion were co-ordination and the desirability of forming a New England Special Libraries Association. After a drive about New Haven as guests of the New Haven Chamber of Commerce, the librarians met at the New Haven Public Library, where the sessions were held. The chairman, Herbert O. Brigham, Rhode Island state librarian, was unable to be present because of illness, and George S. Godard, Connecticut state librarian, presided. J. G. Moulton, of the Haverhill Public Library, acted as secretary.

Mr. Lee outlined the object of the meeting. New Haven libraries were described briefly by several librarians as follows: Public Library by Willis K. Stetson; the New Haven Colony Historical Society by Frederick Bostwick; the High School Library by Clara E. Bradley; the New Haven County Bar Library by Mary H. Foote; the Southern New England Telephone Co. by Jessie Mix; and the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. by Eunice E. Peck. The special libraries of Yale University were described by Andrew Keogh, who also spoke of the desirability of having specialists in charge of special departments of the library and having catalogers with special knowledge of particular subjects.

Library specialties were discussed by Henry R. Simmons, of the Providence Engineering Society. At the second session, Friday evening, information resources were discussed, with a survey of the field by George W. Lee, of Stone & Webster. The Information Clearing House of Boston was described by Lewis A. Armistead, librarian, Boston Elevated Railway. Dr. C. C. Williamson, librarian, Municipal Reference Library, New York City,

spoke of the New York City Special Libraries Association and exhibited specimens of the work of the special libraries. The need of a central registration bureau for special library and other workers, as translators, was discussed, with suggestions, by Miss G. Murray Mills of the General Electric Co., Boston, Dr. Williamson, W. P. Cutter of the Engineering Society, New York, and J. H. Madden of the American Brass Co., Waterbury. The H. W. Wilson Co., White Plains, N. Y., was suggested as a registration bureau, with service on a paid basis.

On Saturday the libraries of Yale and some of the special libraries of New Haven were visited. The subject of the Saturday session was "Team-work among librarians." W. P. Cutter presided. A paper on the work of the Connecticut State Library, especially in preserving and making accessible the vital records of Connecticut, was read by George S. Godard. Mr. Lee spoke on the desirability of forming an association of New England special libraries. The project was discussed favorably by Miss Mills, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Armistead, and it was voted that the committee that called the meeting, with three new members to be appointed by Mr. Brigham, be authorized to form an Eastern Section of the Special Libraries Association. It was agreed that a meeting should be held in February, possibly in Worcester.

P. H. Nystrom, of the U. S. Rubber Co., New York City, spoke on co-operation between public and special libraries so as not to duplicate effort. Mr. Wilson spoke of his interest in the Special Libraries Association and his desire to co-operate with special libraries and establish a registration bureau, if business warranted. Mr. Keogh spoke of the A. L. A. registration bureau. R. L. Power, of Boston University, spoke of the series of articles on special libraries in Boston, now appearing in the *Boston University News*.

The meeting adjourned at noon after passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Stetson and the trustees of the New Haven Public Library and the Chamber of Commerce of New Haven for their hospitality.

JOHN G. MOULTON, *Secretary*.

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Montana Library Association held its tenth annual meeting at Missoula, Nov. 27-29. The meeting was called to order Monday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce by President Davies. Professor Aber, of the Missoula library board, gave a short address of welcome. Mrs. Holman, of Havre, gave

the response. In a lecture on American humorists, Professor Holliday, of the University of Montana, spoke of America as undoubtedly ranking first in this field of literature, and gave a number of readings from the best-known humorists. This was followed by an excellent address on the "Management of Montana libraries" by President Davies. He paid a high tribute to Miss Plummer and her service in library work. A delightful informal tea was given at the close of this session.

The second session was devoted chiefly to small libraries. Ruth Worden, of the Missoula library, gave a practical talk on "The use of clippings and pamphlets." She recommended the card index for local newspapers. Ruth King, of Butte, gave an excellent paper on "Children's work," based on her experiences as children's librarian of the Butte Public Library. This was followed by a paper on "The story-hour and the victrola" by Irene Eldred, of Deer Lodge. The session was closed by a round table on "Library publicity." Short talks were given by Miss McLaughlin, of Chateau county, on "Publicity at the county fair"; by Miss Steadman, of Livingston, on "Publicity thru visits to schools"; and by Miss Haley, of Helena, on "Publicity thru printed bulletins and lists."

Gertrude Buckhous, of the State University Library, was chairman of the third session, which was devoted to county libraries. Mrs. C. E. Bovill gave a paper on "My work for a library in Mineral county," in which she made a plea for good reading for rural communities. She discussed the necessity of books to raise the moral and social standards of life throughout the country. This was followed by short talks on "The county library and the rural schools" by C. W. Tenny, of Helena, and "The need of a library service in a rural community" by S. R. Logan, of Leon. Both spoke of the lack of books in the rural schools, and gave many practical suggestions for co-operation between the county libraries and the rural schools. Winifred McLaughlin, librarian of Chateau County Library, spoke on her novel experiences in getting books to the people throughout Chateau county.

The librarians' banquet was held in the evening at the Florence Hotel. Miss McCord, of Bozeman, was toastmistress, and the witty toasts were the most enjoyable feature of the evening.

The fourth session was held Wednesday morning at the Public Library. In her paper on "The State Library Commission and the assistance it can render the small library," Louise Fernald, librarian of the Great Falls

Library, emphasized the need of a commission for Montana. A field-worker to aid small libraries and county libraries is especially necessary in this state, where distances are so great.

Each member answered the roll-call with a brief discussion of an inspiring book of the year.

The following officers were elected: President, Elizabeth P. Ritchie, Public Library, Kelisell; vice-president, Ruth Worden, Public Library, Missoula; secretary, Winnifred Feigner, University Library, Missoula; treasurer, Ruth Sultzar, Public Library, Butte.

RUTH V. STEADMAN, *Secretary*.

SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The South Dakota Library Association held its ninth annual meeting at Watertown, South Dakota, Nov. 28-29. "Our libraries and the commission," "Bringing the library to the rural community," "The proposed county library law," and "The report of the reading circle" were the papers presented and discussed.

The following exhibits were shown: mending; catalog; publicity; children's work; library supplies; records; adding to the appearance of library rooms; and high school libraries.

The officers elected were Edla Laurson, Mitchell, president; Eugenia Walker, Dell Rapids, vice-president; and Mrs. Elva Schmidt, Watertown, secretary and treasurer. The time and place of the next meeting were left to the executive board.

FANNIE TAYLOR, *Secretary*.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB

The first meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club, for the year 1916-1917, was held on Monday evening, Nov. 13, in the lecture hall of the H. Josephine Widener branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

The president, Mr. Ashurst, after a few words of greeting, introduced Edward A. Newton, who presented Mrs. Thrale as "A light blue stocking" in a very interesting manner, reading extracts from her own diaries (of which Mr. Newton owns several copies), which gave an intimate and personal insight into the life and thoughts of the various members of the coterie of ladies who were the first to be dubbed "Blue stockings." Dr. Johnson's times are always an interesting period of history to students, and Mr. Newton has a very happy faculty of giving a personal touch to his talks, which is not only interesting but instructive.

The usual reception held afterwards proved

a very pleasant ending to a thoroly enjoyable evening.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN, *Secretary*.

VERMONT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

The commission held its joint annual meeting with the Vermont Library Association at St. Johnsbury Oct. 18-19. The evening meeting on the 18th was devoted to reports from the vice-presidents, who have charge of two or three counties each; library publicity in Vermont, a report on one-county or two-county library meetings; progress in educational work, telling about work with the 34 teacher-training classes; and a very sincere and touching memorial to the late Mrs. A. D. Chamberlin of Pomfret from several librarians who had known her most intimately, completed the evening.

In the morning of the 19th H. G. Rugg, assistant librarian at Dartmouth College, gave a paper on "Some Vermont books for Vermont libraries." Sarah N. Cleghorn was unable to give her talk on "Fiction of the year," but three reviews were given on Miss Sinclair's "The belfry," Mrs. Deland's "Rising tide," and Snaith's "The sailor." Joanna D. Croft, head of the Burlington High School teacher-training class, gave a talk on "Story-telling" with a "demonstration" on a first-grade class from school. Dr. Milo B. Hillegas, commissioner of education, spoke on "The library's place in the process of education." In the afternoon, G. D. Smith, librarian of the Burlington Free Library, spoke on "Some modern poets," and Dr. E. T. Fairbanks, librarian of the St. Johnsbury Atheneum, spoke on "Alfred Tennyson." In the evening Miss Jessie B. Rittenhouse of New York spoke on "Democracy and modern poetry."

The trustees of the Atheneum entertained the visitors at a delightful supper at the Congregational church, where Miss E. C. Hills, who had served as secretary-treasurer of the Vermont Library Association for five years, was presented with a silver tea-set in recognition of her excellent work.

The commission exhibited books on forestry, modern poets, story-telling, a general traveling library, and a collection of books given as state aid in maintenance, and gave a demonstration on book mending. The association secured an educational exhibit from the U. S. government, showed many fine posters from libraries advertising books on current events, holidays, etc., and a collection of pamphlets on the European war. H. R. Hunting of Springfield, Mass., and C. W. Clark

of New York had interesting and attractive exhibits of recent books.

REBECCA W. WRIGHT, *Secretary.*

**MINNESOTA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION—
PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIANS DIVISION**

The first meeting of the Public School Librarians Division of the department of professional training of teachers, of the Minnesota Educational Association took place in the St. Paul Normal School Thursday, Nov. 2, 1916, at 3:30 p. m. In the absence of the secretary, Miss Bessie Scripture was appointed acting secretary. A nominating committee was appointed, composed of Miss Mahoney, Mrs. Nicholson, Miss Liedloff. The first paper of the afternoon was read by Dr. W. Dawson Johnston, of the St. Paul Public Library, on "The library as a continuation school."

Dr. George H. Locke, librarian of Toronto, Canada, spoke next on "How a Canadian library contributes toward preparedness with boys and girls." Dr. Locke emphasized the necessity of supplying historic backgrounds, as a basis for successful character building in preparedness for citizenship, and urged the power of the emotional appeal of the historic story to give young people perspective as well as atmosphere.

Miss Wilson led the discussion on "The training of teacher-librarians," outlining the problem under the following topics: The demand; the course of study; practice work; practical application from the teacher-librarian's point of view. Mr. Sumner, librarian of the University of North Dakota, in discussing "The need of teacher-librarians," said that almost daily he received questions in regard to the technique of school libraries, and that to care for that demand, in a measure, they had been giving instruction during the Summer School, altho only a small number had taken the course. Mary E. Hazeltine, preceptress of the Wisconsin Library School, talked about the course of study, outlining a course which is being started this year in the University of Wisconsin, and describing in connection with this, the organizing of a school library in the model high school, which is under the College of Education of the University. This course is confined to technical work the first year, with the bibliographical subjects to follow the second year. Florence Curtis, of the University of Illinois Library School, told of a course of instruction given in the University of Illinois, which emphasized the book side and use of libraries, but did not attempt technical work. Further discussion of this subject was con-

tinued at the Friday morning session when A. D. Keator, associate librarian of Carleton College, spoke on "Practice work." Mr. Keator made a special point of the fact that the benefit to the person doing the practice work, not the library in which he is doing the work, should be kept in mind, that practice should be very carefully supervised, and cannot be regarded as a substitute for apprentice work. Margaret Doty, of Elbow Lake, spoke on "The practical application from the teacher-librarian's point of view." She gave a graphic description of her library as she found it, and told how the reorganization had increased its usefulness and the interest of the students. She testified that the Summer School course had anticipated most of the questions which arose, particularly when supplemented by the ready help of the supervisor of school librarians.

Thursday evening, Nov. 2, the public school librarians met for dinner with the Twin City Library Club, at the St. John's Church Club, with Alice N. Farr, president of the division, acting as toastmistress. She introduced C. G. Schulz, state superintendent of education, who gave a short address of welcome. He was followed by Miss Hazeltine, who emphasized the idea that the "teacher-librarian" or the librarian in the public school should be the connecting link between the school and the public library, two of the magic forces in the life of any community. Miss Curtis spoke of the necessity of a librarian's becoming better known thruout her community, as the library was the "and Company" of every enterprise started in the community. Dr. Locke gave a very interesting talk on library work in Toronto and Canada and told of the great help the library institutes or round tables had been in arousing library interest thruout the rural districts of Canada. Miss Baldwin, of the Public Library Commission, said that the development of school libraries was stimulating the activities of public libraries and hoped that library boards could be prevailed upon to ask for large appropriations for the library, commensurate with the growth and improvements in other departments of the town's activities.

Dr. Johnston, as the last speaker of the evening, invited all those present to visit the new building of the St. Paul Public Library.

On Friday morning, Nov. 3, the next regular session was held, at the St. Paul Normal School. At the conclusion of the discussion on the training of teacher-librarians, the nominating committee made its report, which was accepted, and the following officers were elected for the coming year: Martha Wilson,

president; Ruth Ely of Duluth, vice-president; Bessie Scripture of East High School, Minneapolis, secretary.

Marion V. Baker, librarian of the Rochester High school, read a paper on "Equipment and furniture of a high school library," describing fully the location and arrangement of the library room, its lighting and decoration, and giving the measurements for shelving, tables, magazine rack, bulletin board and filing cases. Alma Penrose, of West High School, Minneapolis, read a paper on "Teaching the use of the library to high school students." Miss Penrose told of the plan in use in her own high school, where instruction is given in beginning English classics. Last year only two lessons were given to each class. This year eight lessons, possibly condensed into seven, are to be given.

Martha Wilson, chairman of the committee on instruction, presented a report of progress. The following tentative outlines for instruction in the schools have been prepared by the members of the committee: For the grades, Margaret Mahoney; Use of the high school library, Alma Penrose; Use of the public library for high school students, A. D. Keator; Teachers' training departments and rural schools, Alberta Ackerman. These discuss the sequence of instruction, by whom given, and where, and outline the work in some detail. The teacher-librarians were requested to test the outlines by use in their schools and report with adaptations and additions before the next meeting as a contribution to a future manual of instruction. The committee was continued.

Mrs. F. A. Koos of Anoka next spoke on the "Accumulation and care of pamphlets." Mrs. Koos mentioned many valuable sources of pamphlet material—foundations, societies, states and cities, and advocated vertical filing, by subject, with subject headings taken from the Reader's Guide, as the ideal method of caring for them.

Miss Margaret Fletcher, librarian of the combined school and public library, at St. Louis Park, read the final paper on "How may grade children be best served by the school library." She said that the first essential is to have enough books of the right kind, dividing the funds equally between high school and grades and making careful selection from the state school lists. It pays to have attractive editions of the older books, with plenty of good fairy tales and books for first reading. Next the children must be brought to the library thru talks and invitations given in each room, enlisting the interest of the teachers who

will help advertise the library. The room should be made as attractive as possible, with a table and chairs for the younger children, and attractive pictures and casts, which the children may be glad to help buy. The most important of all, the librarian must know her books and her children in order to guide their reading. If grade buildings are located in different parts of the town, groups of books should be loaned to these buildings in charge of a teacher or older pupil.

The meeting adjourned and broke up into the following round tables:—The rural school library: leader, Miss Armstrong, Howard Lake; The high school library: leader, Miss Barquist, Minneapolis; The normal school library; leader, Miss Ledoff, St. Cloud.

The interest shown at this first meeting of the section was most gratifying. There were 75 in attendance at the first session, about 60 the following morning, and 135 at the dinner, representing librarians of public, high-school, college and normal school libraries, teacher-librarians, superintendent and teachers. Miss Hazeltine and Miss Curtis, with their broad library experience and interest, added much to the discussions, and the presence of Dr. Locke, with his rich fund of humor and vitality, was a great stimulus. His address on the general program of the M. E. A. on "Efficiency of the spirit" called forth such a wave of enthusiasm that he was obliged to respond to an encore.

BESSIE SCRIPTURE, *Acting Secretary.*

KEYSTONE STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION— SCHOOL AND COLLEGE SECTION

The November issues of the library periodicals reported the organization of the School and College Section of the Keystone State Library Association and the special meeting of the school and college librarians at the State Meeting at Wernersville on Oct. 13. In addition, three round table meetings were held on Oct. 14 for those engaged in the same kind of work, and the three leaders have submitted the following brief reports of the meetings.

The high school round table, led by Susan Himmelwright of Tyrone, met in two sessions: from nine to ten a.m. and from twelve to one. Those who attended were: Sara Evans, West Chester H. S.; Helen Hill, Wm. Penn H. S., Philadelphia; Florence Beitenman, Girls' H. S., Reading; Miss Becker, Boyertown H. S.; Mrs. D. O. Dalzell, N. S. H. S., Pittsburgh; Clara Howard, Shenley H. S., Pittsburgh; Dorothy Elliott, Franklin H. S.; Maud Minster, Altoona H. S.; Miss Baldwin, George School; Mary E. Hall, Girls' H. S.,

Brooklyn; Sarah Bogle, principal, Carnegie Library School; Effie Power, supervisor of work with schools, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; and Robert P. Bliss, Pennsylvania Free Library Commission. The following points were the basis of most of the discussion: The room and its equipment; Securing funds for the high school library; The position or standing of the high school librarian; securing prompt return of over-night and short-time books; The library displaced by crowded conditions; Should the school and college librarians ask for a place in the annual meeting of the State Educational Association? Those present were gratified to learn that the most ideally equipped high school library in the United States is in Pennsylvania. This is in the new Shenley High School of Pittsburgh, opened in October of this year. It seemed wise to have some definite person from whom information regarding High School Libraries could be obtained. Miss Howard was asked to take charge of this work.

The normal school round table was led by Alice Cochran of the West Chester State Normal School. A detailed outline of the course on the "Use of books and libraries," given at the Millersville State Normal School, was presented by the librarian and discussed by those present. Harriet K. Avery, of the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown, read a paper dealing with methods of helping students to cultivate the reading habit. The importance of personal guidance and influence was brought out very strongly. Miss Avery devotes a definite period each day to moving among the students at the shelves, ready with suggestions and hints. Miss Cochran raised the question as to what the Normal School Library can do for its alumni and for the schools in the county in which it is situated. It was suggested that the librarians make a study along this line during the coming year. Five of the normal schools were represented, those present being: Miss Avery, Kutztown; Miss Ritchie, Bloomsburg; Miss Quigley, Shippensburg; Miss Ganser, Millersville; Miss Cochran, West Chester.

At the round table for college and institutional libraries, eight colleges and other institutions of learning were represented, as follows: Haverford College, by Miss Sharpless; Juniata College, by Miss Sheeley and the president, Dr. Brumbaugh; Lafayette College, by Dr. Stonecipher; Swarthmore College, by Mr. Hayes; Washington and Jefferson College, by Miss Lawes; Crozier Theological Seminary, by Mr. Lewis; the Perkiomen

School, by Miss Kriebel. An informal discussion of the following topics took place: Departmental libraries; Reserve books; The honor system as applied to faculty and students in the use of the library; Restrictions and fines for faculty; Teaching students how to use the library; Book buying—new and second-hand; Library fund—its distribution.

HELEN A. GANSER,
Chairman of Committee-in-charge.

**NEW YORK STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
—LIBRARY SECTION**

The business meeting of the Library Section of the New York State Teachers' Association, which met at Buffalo in November, was called together in the library of the new Buffalo Normal School by the president, Dr. James V. Sturgis.

As speakers had presented library topics at eight section meetings of the convention, there was no formal program at this time, but a general discussion took place concerning the new method first tried this year of introducing the library at the different sections. The unanimous opinion of those present expressed hearty approval of the library's taking a practical place in the study of all school problems. Altho in many cases the library speaker had been the last on a program of several papers, thus having a smaller audience than might have been reached earlier, yet even so, more people were brought into touch with library subjects than ever before at this association gathering.

The list of speakers secured thru the efforts of Miss Mendenhall, the secretary of the section, was a strong one, and those attending the business meeting reported much interest and appreciation manifest at the various talks attended by them. In each section, too, the resolution of the State Library Committee for Schools was adopted. The resolution calls for the appointment of a trained organizer for school libraries; for investigation of school conditions thruout the state; and for the incorporation of library requirements in the revised English syllabus now under construction.

The question of the survey of high school libraries of the country which is being made by C. C. Certain, of the Cass Technical High School of Detroit, and by Miss Mary E. Hall, of the Girls' High School of Brooklyn, was presented at the Library Section meeting in interesting detail by Mr. Certain. He mentioned the printing of the report in full in the near future by the Bureau of Education at

Washington, which has shown helpful interest in this undertaking.

Sections addressed by library speakers and those making the addresses were as announced in the *LJ* for November.

At the School Administration Section, Mr. Certain offered suggestions toward a wider use of the excellent machinery already organized in New York state for school libraries. He emphasized the need of state supervision of such libraries, and also placed the responsibility for the requirement of library instruction, as outlined in the proposed English syllabus, on the teachers themselves. Mr. Congdon, state supervisor of English, approves the introduction of such a course if the teachers will ask for it.

At the Elementary School Principals and Teachers Section, Dr. James Fleming Hosic, of the National Council of English Teachers, gave two reasons why teachers are interested in the library movement. First, the passing of the single text-book, which gives rise to the need of variety of sources for supplementing class assignments; second, the growth of play direction, which means the formation of habits for the leisure time of the future. The habit of general reading, too often lacking in grown-ups, can best be acquired thru the school library in active co-operation with the teachers. Outlining ways and means for making the library an assured fact in every school, Dr. Hosic pleaded for the children to be factors in procuring the funds, both for the sake of enlisting their interest and because of the reflex influence on their own libraries at home. He further urged first-hand selection of books, such selection to be based on the course of study both to broaden the hopelessly condensed subjects like geography, and to make alive so human a topic as history by a wise and extensive use of biography.

Dr. James V. Sturgis, of the Geneseo Normal School, was re-elected president of the Library Section, and Miss Martha C. Pritchard, assistant in the Geneseo Normal School Library, was chosen secretary.

MARTHA C. PRITCHARD, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIANS' ASSOCIATION

A regular meeting of the New York High School Librarians' Association was held on Dec. 13, 1916, at the Washington Irving High School.

The meeting opened with a brief discussion on the new pension bill and on the methods of getting books rebound.

A long and interesting talk was given by

Miss Dowden on Stephen Phillips, in which she claimed that he was the first author to make the literary drama popular with the general public.

Mr. Pope gave a very lively criticism of Kennedy's "Servant in the house," showing that the play, which a few years ago was one of the most popular productions of the season, had no real merit to stand on. A discussion of the two dramatists followed, after which the meeting was adjourned.

H. ARDEN, *Secretary.*

MISSOURI LIBRARY COMMISSION

At the meeting of the Missouri Library Commission, October 13, 1916, the following resolution was passed regarding H. A. Gass, who had been a member of the commission since its first organization:

Whereas, Eternal Providence on September 18, 1916, called from among us Howard A. Gass, State Superintendent of Schools and for eight years *ex-officio* member of the Missouri Library Commission, be it

Resolved, That the members of this Commission express their keen sense of loss in being thus parted from one who has worked faithfully with them ever since the organization of the Commission. His was already a busy life when the organization of the Library Commission demanded his attention, and yet his spirit of cheerful co-operation has meant much to the library work of the state of Missouri, and the constant encouragement of his presence will be sorely missed.

A. E. BOSTWICK,
President.
A. ROSS HILL,
T. BERRY SMITH,
A. P. SETTLE,
UEL B. LAMKIN

ELIZABETH B. WALES, *Secretary.*

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB

The next meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club will be at Waltham, Mass., Thursday, Jan. 25. Commission work will be discussed, the best books on the European war, and there will be a literary paper on the purity of the English language by present-day writers. The new Waltham Library will be inspected.

JOHN G. MOULTON, *Secretary.*

Library Schools

PRATT INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

About a month ago the school sent out to its 325 graduates in active library work a questionnaire concerning their positions, salaries, vacations, etc., and 220 of these have been returned filled out. The vice-director purposes tabulating the returns as soon as the stragglers have been heard from.

The annual report of the school forms part of the report of the Pratt Institute Free Li-

brary which has just been published. Graduates who have not already asked to be put on the mailing list may obtain copies of the report by writing to the library office.

The first lecture of the season was given on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 14, by Dr. Frank P. Hill, librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, on the work of that system. The school had a visit from Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, director of the Carnegie Library School at Pittsburgh, on the same afternoon, and the class had the pleasure of meeting them both at tea after Dr. Hill's lecture.

Dr. Azariah S. Root, principal of the New York Library School, gave two lectures on consecutive Tuesday afternoons. On Nov. 21 his subject was "College library and community service," and on Nov. 28 the lecture was on "Bibliographical courses in schools and colleges."

The class had a sewing bee at the Women's Club on Wednesday evening, Nov. 15, to make comfort bags for the wounded soldiers in French hospitals. Sixteen gaily-colored chintz bags were made and filled with small articles for the comfort or entertainment of Pierre Poilu. The Library School faculty and many members of the library staff united in sending off a Christmas box, containing clothing and toys, to Marcelle Imbert, the French baby who was adopted by the class of 1916.

Thanks to the courtesy of Miss Hutchinson, librarian of the Brooklyn Institute Museum of Arts and Sciences, the class has been invited to attend a course of lectures on etchings on consecutive Friday afternoons during December, and many have availed themselves of the privilege.

ALUMNI NOTES

The school has heard with great regret of the death, on Nov. 27, of Alice Stanton Griswold, 1911, at a hospital in Hartford, Ct., after an illness of only a week. Miss Griswold has been librarian of the Hartford Medical Society since February, 1912. She reorganized the library and rendered such efficient service that Dr. Steiner, head of the library committee, said that he and his colleagues felt her loss an irreparable one. The vice-director was in Connecticut for the Thanksgiving recess and attended the services in Hartford on Friday morning.

Mildred E. Davis, 1910, recently in charge of the Central Circulation children's room of the New York Public Library, has been made children's librarian of the public library at Utica, N. Y.

Florence A. Adams, 1913, librarian of the

Polytechnic Preparatory School, has accepted the librarianship of the law firm of Cravath and Henderson of New York.

Sarah Greer, 1914, has resigned from the cataloging staff of Columbia University Library to accept a position in the reference-catalog division of the New York Public Library.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE, *Vice-Director.*

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

A memorial meeting was held Nov. 20 in honor of Mary W. Plummer (1889) and Martha Thorne Wheeler (1891). Mr. Wyer presided. In his introductory remarks he spoke briefly of Misses Plummer and Wheeler, and also mentioned the death of Charlotte E. Groves (1903), which occurred at Coudersport, Pa., Nov. 8, 1916. William R. Eastman (1892), who represented the New York State Library School Association at the memorial meeting to Miss Plummer, held in New York the preceding week, repeated his remarks at that meeting. W. S. Biscoe spoke of the personal traits and professional contributions of Miss Wheeler, emphasizing the conscientious care devoted to all details of her work. Collections of the publications of both Miss Plummer and Miss Wheeler were on exhibit. These, as well as the general plan of the meeting, were arranged by Miss Woodworth, a classmate of Miss Plummer in the first library class and a long-time friend of both Miss Plummer and Miss Wheeler. The school has suffered heavily recently in deaths among its alumni. In addition to the three already mentioned, Florence Whittier and Ernest L. Gay, both of the class of 1902, have died since the close of the last school year.

The courses in Library buildings (Mr. Eastman) and Classification (Miss Hawkins) have been completed, and the second annual examination in typewriting was given Dec. 5. The attention of former students who may be interested in prospective candidates for admission is called to the fact that typewriting is now required from all entering students, and that the casual self-instruction of the past is no longer adequate. A misunderstanding on this point may cause undue trouble to new students who have failed to recognize the necessity for preliminary practice and instruction, thru incorrect statements from well-meaning but misinformed friends.

Some of the students who have had some experience in story-telling are giving story hours to the children of Albany, under the auspices of the Woman's Club of Albany.

Mrs. W. R. Watson is chairman of the committee which is in direct charge of this work. Julia R. Sauer and Marion L. Horton have already conducted story-hours. Thru the courtesy of Mrs. Watson's committee, the students were invited to a recital of Indian folktales, given in the auditorium of the Education Building, Nov. 25, by Mary Powers. A number of those particularly interested in work with children are aiding in the care and supervision of a Christmas collection of children's books now on exhibit by the State Library.

One of the best talks given for some time by visiting lecturers was given by President Rush Rhees, of the University of Rochester, Dec. 8, on "Experiences of a library trustee." President Rhees is a trustee of the Reynolds Library and the Public Library of Rochester, and as president of his university is virtually a trustee of the university library. His talk dealt with the duties of the trustees, who, in the last analysis, are responsible to the public for the general policy of the library and the proper use of its resources; and with the librarian who should be supreme within his field as executive officer and advisor to the trustees. The talk was full of concrete illustrations which were all the more apt because drawn directly from President Rhees' varied experience as a trustee.

The thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the school will be informally celebrated Jan. 5, 1917. The committee in charge of the arrangements is Mary Eastwood, of the faculty, chairman. Isabella K. Rhodes for the State Library staff, and Ruth Wilcox for the students.

FRANK K. WALTER.

LIBRARY SCHOOL OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Special lectures before the juniors have been as follows:

- Nov. 10 and 15. Dr. Frank Weitenkampf. Prints.
- Nov. 15. Mary E. Hall. The high school library.
- Nov. 22. H. M. Lydenberg. Reference department. The New York Public Library.
- Nov. 27. Andrew W. Edson. Recent developments in the New York City schools.
- Nov. 29. Josephine Adams Rathbone. The librarian's care of herself.
- Dec. 6. Mary Ogden White. Book reviews.
- Dec. 8. H. W. Kent. The modern museum.
- Dec. 9. Edith Abbot. The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

This last lecture was given at the Metropolitan Museum and was followed by an inspection of the collections in the galleries.

The seniors in the school and college course have had six lectures by Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale University, on the "Administration of the college and university library";

two lectures by Mr. Root on "Community service by the college library" and "Bibliographical instruction in colleges"; and have visited the Library of the College of the City of New York and Miss Stevens' Studio.

The seniors in the advanced reference and cataloging course have been cataloging incunabula, calendering manuscripts, and working in the map room. They have also attended Mr. Keogh's lectures and a lecture by Mr. Root on "Early printing in the United States."

The seniors in the administration course have had a series of conferences on children's books under the leadership of Annie Carroll Moore, and the talks on branch library administration described last month. Lectures in this course have been given by Florence Overton, Ernestine Rose, Mrs. Noël Leslie, Edith W. Tiemann, Gabriella Ackley, and Ella E. Wagar.

The junior class entertained the faculty, seniors, and a few friends on the evening of Nov. 24. A play, "The crowded hour," was presented, and Miss Henderson, of the faculty, read character in samples of handwriting submitted by the guests. Refreshments and a social hour followed.

ALUMNI

Agnes A. McClure, junior, 1912, has returned to this country and has accepted a position with the H. W. Wilson Company.

The engagement is announced of Charlotte A. Ayres, junior, 1916, to Arthur Y. Meeker, Montclair, N. J.

Jessie C. MacCurdy, 1916, has resigned her position in the Library of Columbia University, to accept the position of librarian of the Workingmen's Compensation Bureau.

Elizabeth V. Briggs, 1915, has accepted the position of librarian of the Royal Oak Township Library, Royal Oak, Mich.

Janet F. Melvain, 1913, has been appointed librarian of the American Social Hygiene Association.

May V. Crenshaw, 1915, has removed to University, Pa., where she has taken a secretarial position.

George S. Maynard, 1914, has been appointed to a position on the staff of the Boston Public Library.

Anna Lucile Brackbill, junior, 1916, has been appointed assistant cataloger in the Union Theological Seminary Library.

Mrs. Jennie C. Engell, 1916, is in charge of the circulation department of the Tacoma Public Library, Tacoma, Wash.

Ruth Fleming, junior, 1915, has been ap-

pointed assistant in the Portland Public Library, Portland, Ore.

Clara L. Overton, 1916, has been appointed high school librarian, White Plains, N. Y.

Emma L. Pafort, junior, 1916, has been appointed assistant in the Public Library, Bay City, Mich.

Louise E. Jones, 1916, has been appointed first assistant in the Washington Heights branch of the New York Public Library.

AZARIAH S. ROOT, *Principal.*

SIMMONS COLLEGE—SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

The Thanksgiving recess this year was from Nov. 30 to Dec. 2, and the Christmas vacation from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4, 1917.

This period of the year has few new courses beginning, and the outside lectures have been chiefly those on library buildings. On the 18th of December, Frederick W. Faxon addressed the class on "Some librarians and library conferences," illustrated by his very interesting collection of slides.

In the book selection course, the seniors have been visiting the Boston bookstores to observe the Christmas displays. The members of the college graduate book selection course have been inspecting the special libraries of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, the Art Museum, and the Social Service Library.

GRADUATES

Florence H. Butterick, 1908-09, was married to Welby H. McCollam, Oct. 14, 1916.

Annaymar Milliken, 1910-11, was married to Rev. P. E. Lyndon, July 13, 1916.

Edith Ashmore, 1913, was married to Charles Maurice Elder, Aug. 10, 1916.

Margaret E. Sinclair, 1916, is cataloging at Harvard University.

Grace W. Thompson is compiling a bibliography on biological chemistry for Mr. Shaw, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Marion J. Ewing, 1911, is home on a year's leave of absence from Pomona College.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY, *Director.*

WESTERN RESERVE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The lectures given by the dean of the school, W. H. Brett, out of his very busy life and experience are always welcomed by the students, and the lectures on the Cleveland Library system illustrated with lantern slides were greatly enjoyed. The subject of library legislation has also been presented by him. It was an especially valued privilege to view the plans for the new Main Library building

for the Cleveland Public Library, which had been prepared by the eight architects who were selected for the competition, and to hear Mr. Brett's explanation of them and his discussion of the important features of the plan presented by the successful firm.

The class gave an informal afternoon party on Nov. 27, just before the Thanksgiving recess.

ALUMNI NOTES.

Recent changes among the alumni have resulted in the following new positions:

Edith M. Hill, 1908, librarian of the Temple branch, Cleveland Public Library.

Mrs. Adaline C. Merrill, 1908, librarian of the Cleveland Heights High School, Cleveland.

Emma Geisler, 1910, librarian of the Geiger-Jones Co., Canton, O.

Mildred M. Burke, 1911, librarian at the Stanford Park branch, Public Library, Chicago.

Anna L. Robson, 1912, librarian of the Glenn County Free Library, Willows, Cal.

Pyrrha B. Sheffield, 1913, librarian of the John Marshall High School, Chicago.

Lura C. Hutchinson, 1914, librarian of the North Branch Public Library, Minneapolis.

Katherine Marvin, 1914, cataloger at the Columbia University Library, New York City.

Violet D. Austin, 1915, assistant librarian at Oahu College, Honolulu.

Blanche A. Swope, 1916, librarian of the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh.

Rose L. Eichenbaum, 1911, has resigned her position as librarian in the Temple branch, Cleveland Public Library, to take up social work temporarily in New York City.

Bertha E. Mantle, 1914, has temporarily withdrawn from library work and is a student at the Kent, O., Normal School.

Cards have been received by the school announcing the marriage of Martha C. Sanborn, 1909, to Frederic C. Willson, Weehawken, N. J.

Alice S. TYLER, *Director.*

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF ATLANTA—LIBRARY SCHOOL

The annual Halloween party for the faculty and Graduates' Association of the Library School was given on the evening of Nov. 3. Following a series of lectures on parliamentary law, the class was formally organized and the following officers announced: President, Louise McGovern; editor, Fanny Hinton; assistant editor, Catherine Crandall; secretary-treasurer, Jessie Thompson.

On Nov. 24 the school had the privilege of

hearing Mr. Utley, secretary of the American Library Association, talk on the "History and work of the American Library Association."

TOMMIE DORA BARKER, *Director.*

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The annual Philadelphia dinner of the Drexel Institute Library School Alumnae Association was given at the College Club, Tuesday evening, Nov. 14. There were seventeen members in attendance. After the dinner a business meeting of the association was held. Miss Goding, chairman of the committee on the register, reported progress.

Resolutions on the death of Miss Custer, the vice-president, were presented and ordered to be placed on the minutes and published in the library journals.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: President, Miss Elizabeth V. Clark; vice-president, Miss Anna R. Dougherty; treasurer, Miss Caroline B. Perkins; secretary, Miss Katherine M. Trimble; executive committee, Miss MacAlister, Miss Latta, Miss Black and Miss Shoemaker.

Action was taken that all members of the association present at the meeting be appointed a committee to procure news notes for the library journals, and that a general notice be placed in the library journals requesting the co-operation, in this work, of all the Drexel graduates.

Mary B. Snyder, 1902, is organizing a technical library for Henry Disston & Sons, in Tacony, Philadelphia, Pa.

Catharine Guilford, 1914, is cataloging the Library of the Manufacturers' Club in Philadelphia, Pa.

Mary Rebecca Lingenfelder, 1914, is cataloging the Library of the William Penn Charter School, Philadelphia, Pa.

Do you enjoy reading these news notes about Drexel friends? If you do, please consider yourself a committee of one to send all news that comes to your attention to the secretary of the association.

KATHERINE M. TRIMBLE, *Secretary.*

Librarians

AYLING, Winifred, has succeeded Emily Mundy in the charge of the young people's room at the Syracuse (N. Y.) Public Library.

BEMENT, Constance, Pratt 1910, has resigned as reference librarian of the State Library at Lansing, Mich., to accept a position in the reference department of the Detroit Public Library.

BOSTWICK, Andrew Linn, librarian of the St. Louis Municipal Reference Branch Library since August, 1912, has resigned his position to become secretary of the City Plan Commission of St. Louis.

DAILEY, Lilla B., who completed her work at Riverside School recently and became librarian at Chula Vista, has just been appointed librarian at National City, California.

DAVIDSON, Mrs. J. B., librarian of the Ellensburg (Wash.) Public Library, has sent her resignation to the board of directors, to take effect February 1. Mrs. Davidson has held the position seven years.

DEXTER, Lydia A., New York State Library School, 1891, is engaged temporarily in classifying and cataloging the Public Library at Ottawa, Ill.

FORDICE, Frances, a graduate of the New York State Library School and later the librarian of the Sedalia (Mo.) Public Library, was married last fall to O. E. Fink, of Sedalia.

GAY, Ernest L., of Boston, Mass., died on Nov. 25 while returning to his home from the Yale-Harvard football game. He was graduated from Harvard in 1897, attended the Harvard Law School, and practically finished the two-year course at the New York State Library School. Altho he held several library positions, first as cataloger at Harvard, then as organizer of the library of the Institute of 1770, and finally as librarian of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, he was especially interested in books from the point of view of the collector and antiquary. With the library of his grandfather, Dr. Winslow Lewis, as a nucleus he built up a valuable library on special lines. The most notable of his collections are the writings of John Gay, the works of Cotton and Increase Mather, the New England Primers and the seventeenth-century American almanacks.

GROVES, Charlotte E., B.L.S. New York State Library School, 1903, died at Coudersport, Pa., on Nov. 8, after an illness of more than two years. Between her graduation from the Library School and her last illness, she filled very able positions in the classification and catalog sections of the New York State Library, the Library of Congress and the University of Chicago Library.

HALL, Mary E. Recognizing the unremitting and faithful service which Miss Hall has done for the cause of high school libraries in the United States, the high school librarians everywhere thruout the country joined

together at Christmas time to present her with a gold watch, in loving appreciation of her unselfish efforts in their behalf.

HALYBURTON, Dorothea D., a graduate of the training class of the St. Louis Public Library, and for three years an assistant in that library, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library at Owensboro, Ky.

HILL, Howard R., formerly assistant librarian of the Trinity College Library, Hartford, Ct., has been appointed assistant librarian of the Adelbert College Library, beginning Dec. 1.

HILSON, Sue E., who has been acting chief of the children's department of the Trenton (N. J.) Public Library for several months, has been regularly appointed to the position.

JUDSON, Katharine B., New York State Library School, 1904-05, for a year and a half previous to July, 1916, the reference librarian in history at the New York State Library, has been engaged to catalog the American history collection in the Hayes Memorial Library and Museum at Fremont, O.

MCCARTNEY, Grace B., Pratt 1911, for two years past head of the order department, has been made head cataloger of the Rochester Public Library, Rochester, N. Y.

MCLEAN, Beatrice, of the 1916 class of the Riverside Library Service School, has been employed by Bullock's department store in Los Angeles as assistant in the book department. She is the first of Riverside students to enter the book selling business, but for a girl with good education, excellent health and pleasing manners there is a promising field. There is no doubt that library training is most desirable in book selling. Miss McLean is the daughter of an old New York bookseller.

MCMULLEN, Elizabeth, New York State Library School, 1915-16, has been appointed librarian of the public library of Elwood, Ind.

MATTHEWS, Caroline E., assistant librarian at the Westboro (Mass.) Public Library for the past three years, has resigned her position.

MUNDY, Emily, who for two months has been on leave of absence from her position in charge of the children's room in the Syracuse (N. Y.) Public Library, has found it inadvisable to return to work and has resigned.

OLCOTT, Frances Jenkins, has selected and arranged, in "Bible stories to read and tell," one hundred and fifty stories from the Old Testament. References are given to passages in both the Old and New Testament, and colored illustrations add to the attractiveness of the volume.

SHOUP, Mrs. Esther Habersham A., for the past eleven years librarian of the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tenn., died Nov 12. She had been in poor health for over a year.

SIBLEY, Jessie Gillies, children's librarian of the central children's room of the New York Public Library, who has been on leave of absence since Oct. 1, has been granted an extension of leave until Sept. 1, 1917. Lenore Power, reference assistant in the central children's room, has been made acting head in Miss Sibley's absence.

STELLE, Helen V., Pratt 1913, formerly reference librarian of the Public Library at Superior, Wis., has been made librarian of the new Public Library at Tampa, Florida.

STIMSON, Mrs. George, has been appointed assistant in the Mercantile Library of Cincinnati, in place of Miss Jacobs, resigned.

TAWNLY, Mary A., New York State Library School, 1915-16, has resigned her position as assistant in charge of library work with schools in the St. Paul Public Library, to become an assistant in the central circulation department of the Minneapolis Public Library.

TIBBITS, Catharine S., assistant librarian since 1908 of the Adelbert College Library, in Cleveland, Ohio, has been forced by the continued illness of her mother to resign her position there.

WAIT, Marie F., New York State Library School, 1894-95, for 14 years librarian of the Longstreet Library, Peddie Institute, Hightstown, N. J., resigned last July and is now a member of the staff of Princeton University Library.

WEBB, Zelia, has passed the civil service examination for the San Diego (California) Public Library and is rated senior assistant. Miss Webb was formerly librarian at Calexico (Cal.) Public Library and attended the short course at Riverside.

WELLES, Jessie, formerly of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, has been engaged as instructor of the class organized by the Toledo Public Library to train new assistants needed for the five branch libraries opening next year. The class begins work January 2, 1917.

WILEY, Stella L., Pratt 1907, branch librarian in the Minneapolis Public Library system, and formerly librarian at Hibbing, Minn., was married Dec. 7 to Anton Curtiss Oberg. Mr. and Mrs. Oberg will be "at home" after the first of February at 1418 Jefferson street, Duluth, Minn.

THE LIBRARY WORLD

New England

MAINE

Brunswick. At a special town meeting, held Nov. 10, it was voted to accept the bequest for the benefit of the Captain John Curtis Memorial Library, contained in the will of the late Miss L. Augusta Curtis, of New York City, formerly of Brunswick.

North Livermore. The North Livermore Reading Club is said to be the first woman's club in the state of Maine to own a library building. The building, formerly the home of the late Miss Jennie Norton, situated on the west side of the common at North Livermore, was purchased by the club last August and has since been remodeled and fitted up for a library. The work has been completed and the books, numbering 600 volumes, have been moved into the new library. Mrs. George Bisbee has been appointed librarian. The formal dedication will probably not be held before June.

Winthrop. The Charles M. Bailey Public Library was presented to the town on Saturday, Dec. 2. Mr. Bailey, the donor, who has spent the ninety-six years of his life in this, his native town, was present, and in a simple but heartfelt speech turned over the building to the town's board of selectmen. The building is one story high, 30 x 60 feet, with a stack room 30 x 30 feet in the south end of the building. There are 3250 books in the library transferred from the old building.

VERMONT

Sixty-five books on Mexico, Panama, and Central America, with some fiction, were sent by the Vermont Free Public Library Commission to the Vermont National Guard at Eagle Pass, at the request of Chaplain J. M. Thomas, president of Middlebury College, last August. The Y. M. C. A. secretary in charge of the books writes: "The books were very much appreciated and filled a deep-felt need, and the shelves were usually empty. I doubt if the same books ever had been or ever will again be of such service as when they were in Texas. . . . The First Tennessee Regiment came into this camp directly after Vermont men left, and they were so eager for the books that I could not refuse them, and they have kept the shelves emptied. . . . Thank you in behalf of the First Vermont Regiment and the First Tennessee, as well as the Kansas

Battery, Third Field Artillery, and Maryland Field Hospital Corps, for the use of the books."

Middlebury. The Egbert Starr Library of Middlebury College is undergoing extensive improvements made possible thru the generosity of the son of the donor, Dr. M. Allen Starr, of New York. In addition to a refinished floor and new runners of cork carpet, the plumbing and lighting are being remodeled, and a third story of stacks is being put in above the present two stories, thereby increasing the capacity of the shelves 30,000 volumes. The card catalog has also been supplemented by a new case of 60 drawers.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston. Trustees of the Boston Public Library are protesting against the erection of any nearby building high enough to constitute a grave fire risk. They have appealed to the mayor for relief, either by revision of the commission's order, which would permit the erection of 125-foot buildings next to the library, the purchase by the city of vacant land on Boylston street adjacent to the library building or an appeal to the legislature for an act to restrict the height of buildings in the block in which the building is situated. The commission can see no legal way in which to revise its report, but will offer no objection to suggested relief on the part of the legislature.

Cambridge. The first European War memorial at Harvard is the Farnsworth room in the new Widener Library. This room in memory of Henry Weston Farnsworth, 1912, who died fighting for France, was dedicated Dec. 5. It is the gift of Mr. Farnsworth's parents. President A. Lawrence Lowell, Prof. Archibald C. Coolidge, director of the university libraries, and Charles A. Coolidge, jr., 1917, were the speakers at the dedication exercises.

Cambridge. A Carnegie Library for East Cambridge, as well as for North Cambridge, may be requested by the city, as a result of interest aroused by the movement for such a building in the upper end of the city. Cambridge Field is the site proposed for the East Cambridge Library, relieving the city of the necessity of purchasing additional land in that section in order to meet the requirements of the Carnegie Corporation that a suitable site

be pledged before application is made. In North Cambridge, it will be necessary to purchase a site if the library application is granted.

Chicopee. The Chicopee High School has come into possession of a large number of volumes devoted to the work of English and American poets, as a gift from the class of 1893 of the school. The books will be the nucleus of the new library to replace the one destroyed when the high school burned in January.

Haverhill. Measures were taken Dec. 4 at the neighborhood library meeting, held in the Haverhill Public Library, in favor of holding gatherings of similar nature at the libraries in the Merrimack valley and vicinity every month or so. Addresses relative to library work with foreigners, with the schools and public in general, were made during the day by Miss Katherine P. Loring, president of the Massachusetts Library Club; J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., former president of the club; Miss Francis S. Wiggin, agent of the state commission for work with schools in Essex county; Miss J. Maud Campbell, director of work with foreigners for the commission; Mayor Albert L. Bartlett, and John G. Moulton, the librarian. Children's books suitable for gifts, a selected collection of some of the recent notable books and a display of helpful mechanical devices were on exhibition. After a luncheon served by the library staff, book mending was demonstrated. A special committee was appointed to assist in giving information to the governor of the state and legislative committees relative to the need of work along library lines for the foreigners of the commonwealth.

Lee. The Ausotunnoog chapter of the D. A. R. has given to the Library Association a 60-foot flagpole and flag for the library lawn. The pole is to bear a bronze plate stating that it was erected to the memory of the Revolutionary soldiers of the town. The chapter makes the request that the flag be unfurled on every suitable day.

Newburyport. There is a strong sentiment in Newburyport against acceptance of the bequest of \$15,000 made to the city by the late William H. Swasey on condition that the public library be forever kept open in all its departments Sundays as on other days. It is argued that acceptance would be illegal; an injustice to the original donors of the library building, who gave it subject to a restriction that it would not be opened Sunday, under which

condition it was accepted; that Sunday opening would entail an expense that would equal the income from the \$15,000; that there is no demand for Sunday opening; that if the matter should be taken to the courts it would involve the city in expensive litigation; and that future gifts to the city would be jeopardized, as donors would have no assurance that their wishes would be recognized in future years.

Saugus. Saugus is to have a \$14,000 Carnegie Library. The selectmen have signed the requisite papers, and the town must appropriate annually \$1400 for maintenance. A committee from the board of trade that conducted the recent centennial anniversary of the town has agreed to furnish the site. At the March meeting \$1000 was appropriated for the maintenance of a library in anticipation of a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie fund, but after an inspection of other libraries it was voted to request \$14,000.

Somerville. Bids for the construction of the new Carnegie Library in Somerville have been asked for by Mayor Cliff. The new building is to cost \$36,000. The Carnegie Corporation is to contribute one-half and Somerville is to maintain it.

Springfield. About 400 volumes of standard English and American literature have been left to the library of the American International College under the will of the late Mrs. P. J. Tower, of this city. The library has been augmented by a number of valuable gifts from other sources in the past few months, and by some purchases of reference books. It now numbers about 3500 volumes, several hundred being selected books, the others gifts that are of real value. There is great need of books dealing with science and modern philosophy, and modern English and American literature. The library has no regular income, and there is great need of funds for the purchase of books which are needed for reference and not likely to be given.

Stoughton. A series of lessons to students in the High School on the use of the various departments of the Public Library have been begun. The librarian gives a general talk on the resources of the library and its uses; this is followed by an explanation by the English teacher on the opportunities of the library for reference work, after which the assistant librarian escorts the group thru the different departments, explaining the catalog, the classification, and arrangement of books on the shelves.

Wellesley. The addition to the Wellesley College Library, which faces the lake at the back of the main building, so happily continues the original structure in building material and architecture that it seems to have been erected at the same time. The first floor of the addition is on a level with the basement of the older building, and has two spacious rooms, one on each side of the broad entrance hall. The wall cases and other woodwork thruout the building are of fumed oak, while steel cases of stack construction, finished to match the woodwork, extend some distance down one side of each room. The flooring thruout the addition is of brown cork tile. A system of diffused lighting is used, and the table lamps are of an entirely new and very satisfactory type. One room on the first floor is devoted to the study of the European languages; the other room contains the very large collection provided for the study of Biblical history and cognate subjects. Beautiful embroideries hang in the corridor on the second floor, from which a door opens into the large reading room of the main library. Opposite this door at the end of the corridor is the desk where books taken from this part of the building are charged. One room on this floor, seating sixty-five students, contains those books belonging to the study of the sciences which are kept in the general library. The departments of astronomy, botany and chemistry have libraries elsewhere on the campus. The room on the opposite side of the corridor is for the use of students of philosophy and education. On the third floor is a large hall for exhibition purposes, out of which open three rooms. One of these is being used temporarily for certain small special collections of books and for a newspaper reading room. Another is to be furnished as a booklovers' room, while the third room, equipped with locked cases, will contain the many rare and valuable books already belonging to the library, with the exception of the Plimpton collection of Italian books and manuscripts, which will remain in the room provided for it in the main building. The four rooms on the first and second floors afford ample seating space for two hundred readers, and could accommodate a larger number if necessary. The connection with the main building necessitated extending the corridor thru the large room formerly known as the conference room. Two smaller but well lighted and pleasant rooms were thus obtained, one of which is now in use as the office of the English literature department, the other as a classroom. Two other larger rooms in the

basement, used as study rooms before the completion of the addition, are now used as classrooms for this department. The architect of the new building, which was the gift of Andrew Carnegie, is Henry D. Whitfield, of New York.

Williamstown. Improvements which will total between \$80,000 and \$100,000 have been planned for the Williams College Library, Lawrence hall. Mr. Harding, of Pittsfield, the architect who had charge of the rebuilding of West College, Griffin hall, and the president's house, has constructed plans which include a reading seminar, special rooms for several of the major departments, and repository for the Chapin collection of rare books. The extension will be built of brick and stone, in the same style as that of the present building, and will reach toward the south, overlooking the old campus. The southern extension will contain a reading room with eight alcoves and a rectangular open space thru the center of the room, about 50 feet long and 17 feet wide. Each alcove will contain from 16,000 to 18,000 books. The center space and the alcoves will be equipped with reading desks. Opening from the south end of this room will be the Chapin room, to contain the collection of rare editions presented to the college in 1915 by Alfred C. Chapin, '69, giver of Grace hall. The entire floor beneath the new reading room will be reserved for "library laboratory" work. This floor will also contain several smaller rooms which will serve as headquarters for the instructors in the various departments. The primary purpose of the "library laboratory" is to provide for the use of the students who are doing work in advanced courses or making investigations in which conferences with the members of the faculty are necessary, a place where they can meet their instructors and work undisturbed.

Worcester. The Swift library is proving the most popular room in the Worcester Boys Club. The library was established by Mrs. D. Wheeler Swift, in memory of her husband. Her gift was so generous that after the room had been fitted for a library there was almost enough money to pay the annual cost of upkeep. The library is but a slight drain upon the club purse. The club has arranged with three assistants from the children's department of the Worcester Free Public Library to serve on alternate nights a week, excepting holidays. Stories are told every Thursday night. When the library was established, the club bought a fair supply of standard works

for boys, chosen by library officials of Worcester. For the current books attracting attention in the boy world, the Swift library depends upon the Public Library, which allows the club the use of about 250 books, changing the books every two weeks, sometimes oftener. The club's books must be read in the library. The city's books are loaned by the librarians, under the same conditions as obtain in the city library, except they may be kept only one week instead of two. The library will accommodate nearly 50 boys.

CONNECTICUT

Hartford. The City Club of Hartford gave a book party, Tuesday evening, Dec. 12, to which each person who attended was invited to contribute a book for the club library. An address on "Books and the business man" was given by Rev. John Coleman Adams, D.D. The club's library committee had prepared a brief list of interesting books as suggestions for those who were at a loss to know what to choose, and the printing of this list was a gift on the part of the printer.

New Haven. At a meeting of the Yale Corporation, Nov. 20, a gift of 2300 volumes of French history from the estate of Frederick S. Palmer, 1873, of New York, was announced. Some of the books were owned by Napoleon.

Middle Atlantic

NEW YORK

Brooklyn. Practically all hope has been given up of beginning at an early date the construction of the first unit of the Central Library Building for Brooklyn, in view of Justice Pendleton's recent decision in the Brooklyn Courthouse case and the submission of bids for the library work made for the work by the Board of Estimate. In addition to this obstacle, prices have advanced so that the new estimates given by the architect are very much in excess of the first.

Brooklyn P. L. The appropriation for 1917 includes an allowance for the maintenance of a library station in Public School No. 89. This station is the first of its kind to be opened in Brooklyn and is somewhat in the nature of an experiment. The Board of Education will supply the room, furniture, light and heat, and the library will supply the books and the assistants. For the present the station will be open only to the pupils of the school.

Buffalo. The library of the Polish Union of America was opened Nov. 26, with a pro-

gram of music and speeches. The library occupies the northwestern wing of the Polish Union home. There are in it about 1000 volumes on history, biography, travel and fiction. The association has \$450 in its treasury which it will use to buy more books. It was decided at the last meeting of the association to purchase pictures of Washington, Casimir Pulaski, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Adam Mickiewicz, Frederick Chopin and "The Sermon of Skarga" to adorn the walls of the reading room.

Buffalo. The Polish Business Men's Association of Black Rock at a recent meeting outlined the plans being advanced by the city for a health center, bathhouse and library building to be erected at Amherst and Grant streets. The building, it was stated, will cost about \$75,000. It is proposed to have a two story brick structure to provide an additional branch of the Buffalo Public Library, a branch of the Charity Organization Society, legal aid bureau, clinics, dental dispensary, infant welfare quarters, lecture room, shower baths and laundry. The city owns the site for the proposed structure, having obtained the property with part of the proceeds of the sale of the Jubilee waterworks. There is no money available for the building now.

Delhi. Henry W. Cannon, a banker of New York, will present a public library to this town, which was his birthplace. The library will be given in memory of his father and mother, who lived in Delhi for many years. Plans are to be drawn up during the winter and the construction is to begin some time next spring. It will be endowed with a sufficient income to provide funds for yearly purchase of books and for proper maintenance.

Jamestown. In consideration of the large number of Swedish people in this city, a number of interesting Swedish books have been purchased by the Prendergast Library, including several excellent translations from English into Swedish of such well-known authors as Rudyard Kipling. A two-volume book on Sweden which has just been issued by the Swedish government, has also been added to the library.

New York City. The consolidation of the library of the American Society of Civil Engineers with that of the United Engineering Societies makes necessary a rearrangement of the building on Thirty-ninth street to house the augmented collection. The additional

stories which will be put on the building to enlarge the stack space will be constructed on an independent steel framework rising from the street level, and the cost of alteration will be borne by the Civil Engineers. An endowment of \$100,000 in cash has been given to the societies by Col. James Douglas, president of Phelps, Dodge & Co., its income to be devoted to the running expenses of the consolidated library.

New York City. The books which were hidden in St. Paul's Chapel for safety after the greater part of the New York Society Library had been stolen from the City Hall by the British soldiers in 1776, are now on exhibition at the Society Library, 109 University place, together with colonial and revolutionary prints. There are about thirty books in the old collection, most of them in Latin, a few in English, German, and Dutch, and all of them ecclesiastical in content. They were originally given to the library by John Sharp (or Sharpe), who was at one time a missionary in Maryland. These books were not discovered in St. Paul's until 1802.

Ogdensburg. At the November meeting of the trustees of the Public Library the offer was made by George Hall, a resident of the city, to give \$15,000 for the erection of a fireproof building to house the Indian collection presented to the library by Mrs. Frederic Remington, and such other gifts of historical and educational interest as may be made in the future. In accepting the gift the library trustees agree to maintain the building, which will stand in Library Park, to keep it open to the public, and to call it the George Hall Remington Memorial.

Oyster Bay. The parada and fiesta which was given recently for the benefit of the Oyster Bay Public Library realized the sum of \$600 for the library fund.

Rochester. Trustees of the Rochester Public Library are considering the establishment of a business and municipal branch library in the vicinity of the Four Corners.

Salamanca. At a special meeting of the common council recently, a petition was considered that the city be given an opportunity to vote \$2500 per annum for a Carnegie Library, to cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

Syracuse. The Westcott station of the Public Library, which has been located at the Lawrence pharmacy on Westcott street, was moved early in December to Sumner school.

This is the seventh station in the schools besides the branch at the University. The other schools are Porter, Elmwood, Lincoln, Bellevue, Clinton and McKinley. During the year other stations will be opened. In May, when a part of the Delaware School is ready for classes, the library will begin the circulation of books there. The work of registering new borrowers at the Library Building has grown to such proportions that a new registration desk has been opened near the main entrance.

NEW JERSEY

Bayonne. A new branch of the Bayonne Free Library, to be known as the Central branch, has been opened in the new Bergoff Building, Broadway and Twenty-second street. A feature is the foreign department. The branch is open from 2 to 9 p. m. daily.

Morristown. Grinnell Lewis, who has already contributed \$56,000 for the new library building at South and Boyken streets, now proposes to pay \$20,000 for the old Lyceum property and reconstruct the building as a concert and lecture hall provided the townspeople will contribute \$50,000, the cost of the rebuilding. Already \$23,000 of the sum required have been pledged and a committee is campaigning for the remainder. The Friday Evening Club is expected to contribute largely, as this club, which holds monthly lecture and concert meetings, now has to get along with inferior accommodations in a Sunday school room. The new building will have an auditorium seating about 800. The main floor will be on the ground level and there will be a gallery, stage, dressing rooms, etc. In addition there will be a kitchen, cloak rooms and other accommodations so that the building may be used for balls as well as concerts and like entertainments.

Orange. The Orange Free Library has received an offer of \$25,000 for the endowment fund, on condition that the trustees raise a like amount before Feb. 1. The increase would assure an income which would put the library on a firm financial footing for the first time. The library has always been supported by voluntary contributions, and its income has long been entirely inadequate. A committee, of which John K. Gore is chairman, will undertake to raise the \$25,000.

West Caldwell. The Julia A. Potwin Memorial Library was formally dedicated Dec. 9. The library, located at Bloomfield, Clinton and Fairfield avenues, contains about 2000 volumes, most of which were donated by Mrs.

Potwin and others. The trustees have decided to extend library privileges to residents of Caldwell on equal terms with residents of West Caldwell. This courtesy is in recognition of the fact that West Caldwell residents have enjoyed the privileges of Caldwell library. Mrs. Julia A. Potwin, who was born in West Caldwell and died several years ago in Cleveland, O., provided in her will for land on which to establish a library with a park in the rear, money for the building and for books and \$50,000 as a maintenance fund. It was her wish that the building be so designed that the upper floor might be used for library and lecture purposes and the basement as a gymnasium. The latter feature will be added later, with an extension at the back of the building. It is also proposed in the near future to lay out the land as a park. As constructed, the building contains one large room, opening from a lobby. Book stacks are arranged against the back and side walls, with reading tables at each side.

PENNSYLVANIA

Bristol. The benefit recently given in the Forrest theatre for the Bristol Free Library was a very successful event and netted \$276.35.

Charleroi. The public reading rooms in the Odd Fellows' building on Fifth street and Washington avenue have been given up by the Public Library Association, but the movement for a better public library will not be dropped. In the plan for the proposed new municipal building to be erected probably the coming year a room is to be set aside for a library and rest rooms provided. The school board also is said to be planning for a public library in the new high school addition on the hill.

Doylestown. The Doylestown council has passed the Malinda Cox Free Library ordinance contracting to pay annually not less than \$300 or more than the amount of one mill on the assessed valuation to support a librarian. The town will get the \$30,000 bequest from the estate of the late Charles C. Cox for a library, and it is likely that the library will be opened about January 1, 1918.

Pittsburgh. Announcement was made Dec. 6 that \$1,038,500 has been appropriated for use of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, the money having been provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The Carnegie Institute of Technology will receive \$956,000, completing the arrangements entered into with Mr. Carnegie three years ago, by which

the trustees agreed to increase the student body by 200 students a year on condition that Mr. Carnegie would advance \$1,200,000 for buildings and \$1,556,000 for endowment. Of the remaining \$82,500, \$52,500 will be used for the general purposes and improvement of the museum, fine arts department and the Carnegie Library School.

Pottsville. After a controversy which has lasted for months, an agreement has been reached which gives the Pottsville school board the majority control in the expenditure of public library funds. The board of education has voted to donate \$3600 a year toward the maintenance of the library, which will insure the erection of a \$36,000 building at Third and Market streets, by the Carnegie Corporation. The resolution provides a governing board consisting of the superintendent of schools and the seven school directors, a total of eight, from the schools; and six citizen trustees to be elected by all members who contributed \$1 a year or more to the library.

Punxsutawney. The Public Library room on South Jefferson street was opened to the public for inspection on Dec. 1, and for the circulation of books the following day. About 2000 books are on the library shelves. Edith Beck is the librarian.

Scranton. A committee of council, by unanimous action, has approved of an appropriation for the Scranton Public Library which is \$2800 in excess of that of last year. As the members of the committee compose a majority of the council, this means that the appropriation, as adopted, will stand.

MARYLAND

Baltimore. Branch no. 18 of the Enoch Pratt Free Library was formally opened to the public Nov. 17. The new building contains about 4000 volumes. It cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000. The site was donated by Frank Novak. The structure was erected with money obtained from the Carnegie Corporation.

Baltimore. For three years or more the East Baltimore Neighborhood Association, led by Isaac Aaronson, has been trying to get a free library for that section, the most densely populated in the city. In the budget for next year the Board of Estimates has included an appropriation of \$10,000 for a site, and there is much neighborhood rejoicing over the prospect of having a real library at last.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington. The new library station in the Anthony Hyde School, in Georgetown, known as library station no. 2, was opened early in December as a part of the chain of public library stations which is being projected throughout the city. It is located in a large vacant classroom on the second floor of the building, taking the place of a former station, which was found to be insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it. The new station is in charge of Grace M. Hills, and is open only Saturday morning from 9 until 12:30 o'clock. At present there are about 500 books on the shelves.

The South

VIRGINIA

Richmond. An open meeting was held by the Richmond Educational Association in November, to open a vigorous campaign to secure a free public library for the city. The Richmond Educational Association several years ago took up the matter of a city library and has done much to arouse public sentiment. Several mass-meetings have been held from time to time, and a number of organizations have been interested in the agitation. At a recent meeting of the executive committee of the association a report was adopted showing how the library might be secured for the city. At the opening of the William F. Fox School Community Library, Nov. 28, Dr. J. C. Metcalf of Richmond College spoke on "The need of a city public library," and urged his hearers to join in the campaign before the city council and the administrative board for a fund of \$25,000 for the beginning of a library.

Roanoke. A public library committee of the Woman's Civic Betterment Club and the Chamber of Commerce has addressed an appeal to the citizens of this city to support a movement to secure a public library. Only nine cities in the United States in the class with Roanoke are without public libraries, while 76 in the same class have them. An annual appropriation of \$6500 is estimated to be ample to support a library here.

WEST VIRGINIA

Elkins. A campaign was opened Dec. 3 in the Presbyterian churches of Wheeling and the vicinity to raise \$150,000 for the Davis and Elkins College, located here. One of the principal expenditures will be for the erection of a library, a science hall and a gymnasium.

NORTH CAROLINA

Albemarle. The Woman's Club of Albemarle gave a reception at the Community building Nov. 28 and formally presented to the public a library just purchased from the estate of the late Col. John C. Wright. The Piedmont Commercial Club has agreed to supplement this gift by a donation of \$150; the Albemarle Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, has voted to make a contribution of books bearing especially on Southern history and literature; and each of the social clubs of the town has indicated its desire to help in this good work by presenting books or sets of books. Many volumes were also donated by the various guests attending the reception. The library is located in the second story of the Community building. Pauline Whitley is librarian.

Henderson. The Henderson Public Library was opened to the public Dec. 1 with an entertainment and book shower.

GEORGIA

Americus. Committees have been appointed by the city council and the library board to confer together and devise a plan for caring for the past indebtedness of the institution and for carrying on the work in the future. In 1908 the mayor and city council entered into a contract with the Carnegie Corporation to provide adequate support for the library, but since that year no body has fulfilled the requirements of that contract. The contract is said to be legal and binding, but instead of resorting to the law to force its fulfilment, the Carnegie Corporation is holding up requests for grants from other points of the state until the present matter is adjusted.

Dalton. This city will comply with the conditions attaching to a \$7000 bequest made by A. K. Hawkes, the Atlanta optician, who died in November, for establishing a children's library here. Of the amount named, \$6000 is to be used for a building, \$500 for books and \$500 for a moving picture equipment, and the city is to bind itself to maintain the library and the moving picture feature. Mr. Hawkes' will provided for a number of such institutions to be established in Georgia cities, the only other one designated in North Georgia being Cedartown. Sixty days is the limit named by the will in which the conditions shall be accepted, failing which other cities are named as second choice.

Decatur. A number of Decatur's leading women are interesting themselves in a move-

ment to obtain a Carnegie library for that city. The Woman's Club, the U. D. C., the Parent-teacher Club, and other organizations are being enlisted for the work.

Griffin. The Hawkes Free Children's Library was opened Nov. 28. The opening was first scheduled for Nov. 13, but out of respect to the late A. K. Hawkes, of Atlanta, whose death occurred a few days before, the opening was postponed. The library was made possible by the generous gift of Mr. Hawkes. He at first donated \$10,000 with the understanding that this sum go toward building a library, and that the citizens equip and maintain it. When his will was probated in Atlanta, it was discovered that an additional gift of \$7000 was made to the institution to be used in bringing instructive moving pictures to the library. The building has been handsomely furnished and equipped with books by the citizens and a trained librarian employed.

FLORIDA

Tampa. It is hoped that the Public Library, which was completed last summer but has never been opened, may be ready to open its doors to the public sometime in January. A trained librarian has been appointed, and an assistant will be chosen later. The library now has on hand or in prospect from this year's taxes about \$9000. It estimates that \$3000 will be needed for running expenses, leaving \$6000 for furniture and books. Venetian blinds will be installed at once, and the board of public works will be asked to take care of the lawn and improve the surroundings. Correspondence has been entered into with Mr. Letheridge, the gentleman who has offered to supply 4000 volumes, asking him to furnish the board with a list of the books.

TENNESSEE

Middlesboro. The Woman's Club is now holding its meetings in the Carnegie Library building, which has been furnished but idle for many months, and they announce that within a few weeks they expect to have it open for the circulation of books.

ALABAMA

Mobile. The Chamber of Commerce is assembling books for a business library in one of their rooms.

MISSISSIPPI

Gulfport. The cornerstone of the new Carnegie Library was laid Nov. 20.

LOUISIANA

The Louisiana Federation of Women's Clubs hopes to have a bill introduced at the next regular session of the legislature providing for a library commission, and at the recent convention, Mrs. D. D. Daggett, of Jennings, chairman of the library extension committee of the federation, gave an excellent address on the need and purpose of library commissions. The Louisiana Library Association, thru Mrs. Harvey, librarian of Newcomb College, has presented to the federation 700 volumes, all cataloged and ready for circulation, which will be circulated in all parts of the state as soon as the necessary boxes for shipping are prepared. The only cost to communities will be for freight charges.

The Central West

MICHIGAN

Detroit. The Divie B. Dusfield branch of the Public Library, in the North Woodward district, was opened Nov. 24. A smoking room for men is planned for this building, and similar rooms in other branches may be arranged later.

Detroit. A resolution giving the library service employees greater leeway as to half pay during sickness, amending an old resolution of a like nature, considered too strict, was offered and unanimously adopted at the November meeting of the library commission. The resolution provides that assistants identified with the library service for less than five years may have sick leave with half pay for not more than six weeks, and that assistants identified with the service for more than five years may have sick leave with half pay for not more than three months unless by special ruling of the commission.

East Jordan. East Jordan is to have a \$10,000 Carnegie Library. W. P. Porter has donated a desirable site in the business section of the town, and the city commission has passed a resolution to raise \$1200 by tax each year to maintain the same.

OHIO

Cleveland P. L. All the books in the John G. White collection of oriental literature and folklore, now a part of the library, have been roughly classified and are in process of sorting out and grouping by shelfmark. Some use of the books has begun already, and it is now possible to appreciate the resources of the collection in certain special lines. The

prototypes of many well-known poems are contained in the collection and 140 languages are represented.

Columbus. A geological library for Ohio State University, which is to be a tribute to his father, has been planned by Prof. Edward Orton, Jr., former dean of the college of engineering at the university. Professor Orton proposes to combine the books in the present small geological library of the university, the library of the geological survey and the library of the late Prof. Charles S. Prosser, formerly of the department of geology. The new library is to be known as the Edward Orton Memorial Library of Geology and will be located in one of the large rooms on the second floor of Orton hall. The plan has been approved by the university trustees, who have set aside the room for the purpose of housing the books. The new memorial library will comprise several thousand books on the subject of geology, as the university geological library and the geological survey library alone include 7000 volumes. The library of the late Prof. Prosser includes several thousand volumes and also valuable pamphlets. The project is being undertaken at the expense of Professor Orton, who plans to remodel the room assigned to be the quarters of the library and to decorate it in an attractive manner.

Dayton. Three hundred volumes of medical books, part of the medical library formerly possessed by the late Dr. William Platfaut, have been offered to the Dayton Public Library by Dr. Paul Tappan, the present owner.

Dayton. A library to contain 1000 books when completed, is being opened at Bomberger park by the division of recreation department of the department of public welfare. The library will be under the direct supervision of the Dayton Public Library, and will be open weekday afternoons.

Proctorville. A five thousand dollar library has been given to the village by a native son, Dr. B. M. Ricketts, now a prominent specialist of Cincinnati. The library will be known as the Rachel McLaughlin Ricketts Public Library.

Youngstown. Having received a moving picture machine as a gift the Public Library plans to show films Saturday afternoons to the children and Saturday evenings to adults. The pictures already secured include "David Copperfield," "Alice in Wonderland," "Ramona," "Treasure Island," "Les Misérables" and some of Shakespeare's plays.

The Northwest

WISCONSIN

West Allis. At a recent session of the city council the request of the library board for an increase in the appropriation allotted in the city budget was approved, giving the library officials \$2800 for the maintenance and equipment of the institution, instead of \$2200 at first appropriated.

MINNESOTA

Eveleth. At the November meeting of the library board the establishment of branches in Leonidas and Iron Junction was discussed. Inasmuch as a large number of people regularly visit the library from those communities already, it was considered desirable to establish the branches for their greater convenience.

St. Paul. Two hundred and fifty architects, who were attending the national convention of the American Institute of Architects in Minneapolis, visited the St. Paul Public Library and the Hill Reference Library on Dec. 8. It was the first time the Hill Library had been opened to inspection.

IOWA

Cedar Rapids. Among other gifts announced for Coe College in connection with the completion of its recent financial campaign, was one of \$50,000 by Mrs. Mahala Dutton Douglas as a memorial to the late Walter D. Douglas, who lost his life with the sinking of the *Titanic*. The memorial will take the form of a library building. It will not be erected immediately, since the college is not yet ready to go ahead with this improvement, but its erection is scheduled for the not far off future.

Council Bluffs. Lessons in the use of the library catalogs and the reference rooms are being given to the school children several times a week, the time of the lessons being adapted to the convenience of the pupils and teacher. Branch libraries are now established in every school building in the city, with the exception of Bloomer, Washington avenue and Third street.

Des Moines. Backed by the Iowa State Medical Society, Johnson Brigham, state librarian, in his last annual report urges the establishment of a medical department in the State Library. A bill providing for this department will be presented to the coming legislature, and an earnest effort will be made by the physicians and surgeons of the state and their associations to secure its passage. This bill asks for an

annual appropriation of \$2000 for the purchase of books, magazines and the transmission of such material to the physicians and surgeons of the state, and also \$2400 annually "as a salary for an expert librarian trained in medicine and surgery and in the languages in which medical and surgical literature is most commonly written and published." A room on the second floor of the Historical Building, opening into the general library, has already been set apart for this purpose and equipped with steel stacks. The custodians of the library of Drake University's Medical School, recently closed, turned over to the State Library a collection numbering about 1400 medical works, and individual physicians have donated several hundred volumes. These, with those already in the library, make a strong nucleus for the proposed department.

Greenfield. The first of several new Carnegie library buildings which will be completed before the first of the year was finished here in November at a cost of \$9000, and will be dedicated Dec. 27.

MONTANA

Missoula. The city commissioners and the board of county commissioners have entered into a contract under the terms of which the city is to give library privileges to all residents of Missoula county in exchange for the returns from a half-mill tax levied on all property outside the city of Missoula. This will be the first free county library in Montana, and is expected to go into operation Jan. 1. The city is to manage the library as before, according to the contract, but use of the funds contributed by the county is restricted. Of the county fund, \$1000 is to be set aside to cover the use of the library equipment and the services of the library staff, but the rest must be applied to county extension. Moreover, all books purchased with county funds must be marked as county property.

NEBRASKA

Blair. Ground was broken Nov. 10 for the new \$10,000 Carnegie Library building at the corner of Fifth and Lincoln streets. The structure will be of buff-colored brick, and is expected to be completed and turned over to the library board by May 1.

COLORADO

Denver. An offer by the Carnegie Corporation to donate four branch library buildings to the city of Denver has been accepted by the city library board. Twenty thousand dol-

lars for each building will be available in 1918, provided the city secures sites and appropriates \$8000 annually for maintenance of each library. The city has agreed to meet the requirements. The four Carnegie branch libraries will be located in Globeville, Park Hill, West Denver and Berkeley. The exact sites upon which they will be built have not been selected, but members of the library board and Mayor Speer are now engaged in conferences upon the subject, and it is probable that the sites will be city ground.

Littleton. Littleton laid the cornerstone of a new Carnegie Library Nov. 12. The ceremony was under the auspices of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Colorado. The building will cost about \$8000.

The Southwest

MISSOURI

Columbia. The city library committee has arranged plans to raise \$1000 with which to purchase a site for the Carnegie Library which Columbia is endeavoring to secure. The money is to be raised by spring. The women's organizations of Columbia are back of the movement.

KANSAS

W. H. Kerr, the librarian of State Normal School, has once more gathered notes of progress among the smaller Kansas libraries. "Many a Kansas library," he writes, "has had its start like the Thayer Public Library. A year and a half ago the Friday Reading Club of Thayer, with twenty members, purchased the old Forest Bank building, a well-built brick structure, for \$900. They paid a small amount down and have held bazaars and food exchanges, pieced quilts, sold cook-books and soap, and sung an oratorio, paying little by little. A recent payment of \$200 left only \$41 to be raised. The library of 1300 volumes will soon be nicely housed, and the club will have a permanent meeting-place. The president of the club is Mrs. Abby V. Forest, a charter member of the twenty-year-old organization.—Miss Lulu Bice, librarian of the Fort Hays Kansas Normal School, has cataloged the Stockton Public Library, and it is now open again.—Horton is to have a free library. Three women's organizations are leading the effort, and the city commissioners have granted the use of a room in the city hall. Twenty current magazines and news-

papers are on file.—Mayor Griffin, of Medicine Lodge, has appointed the board of directors of the public library, for which a tax was voted in June. The library was formerly known as the Lincoln Library of Medicine Lodge.—The new Wellington Carnegie Library is starting off with a good circulation of books. During September, 1157 of its 1650 books were drawn by 559 readers. Several magazine files are being completed and bound. Miss Gretchen Flower, formerly librarian of the College of Emporia, directed the technical organization of the library during the summer, and is now studying in the University of Wisconsin. Miss Kate Hackney is acting librarian.—Caney is the latest Kansas town to vote a tax for its public library. Mrs. Eva Jarvis, the librarian, divides her time between the public and the high school libraries of Caney.—Seven Kansas towns have voted tax support for their public libraries within the last year: Caney (Canton township), Council Grove, Marion, Medicine Lodge, Nickerson, and Sterling.—The women of the S. L. M. Library Association, at Troy, want a Carnegie Library. They have maintained a library for several years. Robert Tracy recently presented valuable books.—The Thursday Afternoon Embroidery Club, of Americus, recently gave a reception in behalf of the community library which the club organized under the leadership of Mrs. J. J. Wright. Over 100 guests registered, and 161 books were donated.—Mrs. W. D. Royer has been chosen as assistant to Mrs. Roberta McKowan, librarian of the Herington Carnegie Library. The library is circulating more than 1100 volumes per month.—Atwood, in Rawlins county, has a Public Library of 470 volumes, under the supervision of the W. C. T. U. Miss Nettie Chambers is librarian.—Yates Center Public Library circulates its magazines after two months of reference use in the library.—The Public Library building at Salina has been redecorated, the woodwork refinished, a semi-indirect lighting system installed and the furnace overhauled. Mrs. Delia Brown is librarian.—Boy Scouts of Caldwell, led by Major Sutherland, did the work of sodding the public library lawn.—Wamego has organized a book exchange club which may grow into a public library."

Seneca. The citizens of Seneca have organized a library association, with Mrs. M. R. Connet as chairman of the board of twenty-four trustees. Rooms in the new city hall are to be used temporarily for library purposes, but the plan is to try later for a Carnegie Library.

OKLAHOMA

Tulsa. Negroes make up the personnel of a new library board created by the city commission to supervise the new colored municipal library recently established on Greenwood avenue, toward whose support the commission has authorized a monthly appropriation of \$50.

ARKANSAS

Several weeks prior to the election the state department of education announced that a circulating library valued at \$100 would be given to the county which rolled up the biggest majority, rated on a percentage basis, for Amendment No. 12, the adoption of which enables a school district to increase its school tax to any amount not exceeding 12 mills. It is believed that the schools of Jackson county may be the owners of the library as the vote on the amendment in this county was 1473 for and only 335 against.

TEXAS

At the suggestion of I. A. Goldstein, president of the Waco Public Library Association, a shower of telegrams from Texas libraries was sent to Andrew Carnegie, Nov. 25, congratulating him on his eighty-first birthday. Inasmuch as all libraries are indebted to Mr. Carnegie directly or indirectly because of his \$100,000 endowment of the Publishing Board of the American Library Association, because of the good work done by the Atlanta Library School, which Mr. Carnegie finances especially to train librarians and assistants for Southern libraries, and because of the general benefit to library growth as a whole derived thru Mr. Carnegie's gifts of library buildings, some libraries not possessing Carnegie buildings joined in the shower. Among the libraries that sent telegrams of good-will are the Waco Public Library, the Public Library of Corsicana, the Carnegie Public Library of Sulphur Springs, the Gainesville Public Library, the Carnegie Library of Cleburne, the Bryan Carnegie Library, Pecos Carnegie Library, Carnegie Library of Belton, the Winnsboro Carnegie Library, the Temple Carnegie Library, the Sherman Carnegie Library, Carnegie Public Library at Greenville, the Stamford Carnegie Library, Houston Lyceum and Carnegie Library, Houston, the Memphis Carnegie Library, the Colored Carnegie Library of Houston, the Texas Library and Historical Commission, Austin, the Nicholas P. Simms Library, Waxahachie, the Cumberland College Library, Leonard, the Denison XXI Club Library, Texas Christian University Library, Fort Worth, and the

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. The first 16 mentioned have Carnegie buildings.

Brenham. Improvements are being made in the library of the Brenham public schools, and the nucleus of 570 books has been augmented by the addition of the private library of Supt. W. D. Notley, who has loaned his collection of several hundred volumes for the use and benefit of the students. The teachers and children are actively engaged in raising money for the purchase of new books, and an order has just been sent in for nearly a hundred books of reference, history, etc.

Port Arthur. The actual work of laying the concrete foundation for the \$160,000 Gates Memorial Library, which will be a gift to the city from Mrs. John W. Gates, is now well under way. The site of the new building is at the corner of Stilwell boulevard and Proctor street.

The Pacific Coast

WASHINGTON

Molson. A book donation social was held Nov. 11 in the high school auditorium. One hundred and fifty volumes were donated to the school library. A program was given and lunch served.

Seattle. Plans for the Frederick A. Churchill, Jr., Memorial Library, to be installed in the new Commerce Building at the state university by friends of the former Seattle newspaper man, who died last August in New York City, are rapidly assuming definite form. Subscriptions already reported by the secretary-treasurer, William A. Simonds, aggregate more than \$600, and a large number of donors yet remain to be heard from. According to present plans, work towards assembling the library will begin at once, and it is expected to grow into an extensive reference journalism library. The room set aside for the housing of the library in the new building will be directly adjoining the Department of Journalism.

Tacoma. The 1917 budget of the Tacoma Public Library is 18 per cent. below that of 1916. After this was definitely announced in the fall, the library board appointed a special committee to work with the librarian and the heads of departments to make an efficiency survey of the work of the library and determine how to give the best service possible on the funds allowed. In addition, an outside

library efficiency expert, Prof. W. E. Henry, director of the State University Library and its Library School, was invited to make an investigation. In an extended statement in the *Tacoma Tribune* of Nov. 26, Bishop Keator, president of the library board, gives the result of both investigations. Professor Henry found that 65 per cent. of the entire appropriation was being paid for salaries, as compared with an average of 46 per cent. in other libraries of the same size, while expenditures for equipment were below the average. In circulation the library exceeds most of the cities of similar size, whether measured by size of library, size of staff, or amount of income. Considering these facts, Prof. Henry recommended a decrease in the number of the staff, retaining those persons best fitted by general education, professional preparation and experience, with reasonable increase in salary to offset the additional duties entailed. He also recommended closing all agencies except the main library and those which can be maintained at little cost, and an increase over the normal expenditure of past years on binding and rebinding, thus preserving the book stock from exhaustion. Following the consideration of Professor Henry's report and its comparison with the report of its own investigating committee, the library board at its meeting on Nov. 24 voted to close both the South Tacoma and McKinley Hill branches for one year, retaining only the main library and the stations at Fern Hill, Oakland, Proctor, Rhodes Brothers', and Sixth addition. The Rhodes Brothers' station will be financed entirely at the store's expense, the controlled by the library. The Roosevelt, Larchmont and Center stations will be abolished. The salary roll was also cut 8 per cent., and a long list of transfers and changes in positions was voted. Protests have been made by citizens in South Tacoma and McKinley Hill against the closing of their branches, but apparently the only way to continue the work of the library in those districts is to find some store or organization willing to establish a station and assume the distribution of books free of cost.

OREGON

Portland. The Public Library is rejoicing over the fact that this year it is to receive its statutory limit of one-half mill. It is particularly gratifying to get this increased appropriation, because the library merely sent a summary of the annual statistics to the county commissioners, with a request for the full amount for the coming year, where heretofore it has had but .45 of a mill. The request

passed without question, neither the librarian nor any member of the board of directors being asked to make any further explanation.

CALIFORNIA

The proposed law for the state certification of all librarians, to be presented at the next session of the legislature, was advocated at the meeting of the sixth district of the California Library Association in session at San Diego in November. Now only county and school librarians come under state authorization. The proposed law will require librarians of even the small cities to come under state civil service.

Berkeley. The splendid new reading room in the University Library will be on the second floor, on the east side of the building, toward the Sather Campanile, and will accommodate about 300 readers. It will be a valuable addition to the library facilities, since the university long ago outgrew the 500 seating capacity of the reading room in the existing portion of the library built thru the bequest of \$750,000 by the late Charles Franklin Doe. Completed only five years ago, the room has become overtaxed (altho second in size of library reading rooms in the United States), since, besides the six thousand students now gathered on the Berkeley campus, the reading room is used also by great numbers of visitors.

Los Angeles. The Cahuenga branch of the Public Library, at Santa Monica boulevard and Madison avenue, which is the last of the six branches provided under the gift of \$210,000 from the Carnegie Corporation in 1911, was opened Dec. 5. This last unit in the library system of the city was built at a cost of \$34,000 and is constructed of brick and artificial stone. The building is constructed upon what is known as the clover-leaf pattern, whereby the entire floor space may be supervised from a centrally located delivery desk. The building is 95 feet long, 65 feet wide and 35 feet high. The lot upon which it stands is 150 by 100 feet. The new branch is equipped with 5000 volumes, and others will be added later. Fannie Dorman will be the librarian in charge, Carrie Ziegler first assistant, and Gladys Glenn children's librarian.

Modesto. The Stanislaus County Free Library has 28 branches, employing 27 people, and has 14,017 books on its shelves for circulation among 9063 cardholders thruout the county. The circulation of the library for the last quarter was 25,978 books and 2504 periodicals. The county supervisors have

recently accepted a deed to lots in Oakdale from the Oakdale Woman's Improvement Club, on which is to be built a new Carnegie Library, a branch of the county library. Bids for construction of the library have all exceeded the \$7000 appropriation, and a second advertisement for bids has been ordered.

San Francisco. In a formal resolution adopted Nov. 21, the Board of Education notified the Board of Supervisors, the Board of Health, the Board of Public Works, and the entire municipality that it intended to take over the old library building at Hayes and Franklin streets when the new library at McAllister and Larkin is ready for occupancy. This followed the petition made the preceding day by the Board of Health that the old library be turned over to it. The Board of Education, in its resolution, set forth that it needed the library building as an overflow school for the High School of Commerce. The Board of Health says it needs the same structure to escape from its "dark and gloomy" quarters at Seventh and Mission streets and save the city from paying rent. The library trustees already have assigned the old library building to the Board of Education. Whether this is sufficient authority, or whether the matter rests with the supervisors, is a question the two battling departments cannot agree upon.

Stanford University. Details of the new Stanford University library have been practically completed by Librarian George T. Clark and Architects Bakewell & Brown, of San Francisco, and work on the new structure is to begin soon. The university has been in need of a library building ever since the fire of 1906 demolished the new one just ready for opening. Fortunately, the crisis of 1906 did not affect the collection of books for the university library, since a special fund was founded to purchase ten thousand new books per year for the Stanford collection. The library endowment, known as the Jewell Fund, consisting of \$500,000, was established by Mrs. Leland Stanford shortly after the university was opened. Adding ten thousand books a year to the Stanford collection has placed the library eleventh in size among American universities, in spite of the fact that Stanford is the youngest, with the exception of Chicago, of the thirty greatest in the United States. The present library building has been unable to accommodate a number of special collections turned over to it recently. Among them are the Branner geological library, established and gathered by President Emeritus John Cas-

per Branner, which consists of ten thousand books, and 17,000 pamphlets and maps, and the Flugel collection of 4300 old English and old German works. The Barbara Jordan collection of books on birds is interesting. It was founded by Chancellor Emeritus Jordan in honor of his daughter, Barbara. At present the library is hardly able to hold conveniently the 240,000 books in the general collection, and President Ray Lyman Wilbur has persuaded the board of trustees to rush work on the new structure.

UTAH

Logan. The county commissioners are considering a proposal to sell part of the courthouse block to the city and give another part to the library commission, so that a new city hall can be created on one side of the courthouse and the Carnegie Library on the other. It is desired to have about 50 feet on either side of the courthouse, which would give spaces of about 26 feet between that building and the proposed new ones. The plan is to have the library on the north of the county quarters and the city hall on the south side.

Springville. The local library board has received notification from the Carnegie Corporation that Springville's application for a library building has been approved by the board and the appropriation made. The local board will take steps at once to secure a site for the building, and it is likely that the building will be erected during the year.

Canada

MANITOBA

Winnipeg. Provincial L. of Manitoba. J. P. Robertson, libn. (32d ann. rpt.—yr. ending Nov. 30, 1915.) Accessions 1682; total over 50,000. The question of accommodation in the new Parliament house for the library and museum has been under consideration, and if granted it will relieve the congestion from which the reading room and archives department suffered during the year. The reading room is the only place where bound files of newspapers of the province are to be found, and they have proved invaluable to members of the legal profession. In the provincial archives department a good collection has been made of old documents, both printed and manuscript. Scrapbooks on biographical, political and historical events are kept and indexed. A good catalog, which the library has needed for several years, has been started, and it is hoped that the classification and cataloging of the entire library may be finished in two years. When completed, the catalog will

probably be printed for the convenience of library patrons. The work of the library was handicapped by lack of sufficient help; altho one of the largest provincial libraries in Canada, it spent little more than \$5000 in salaries during the year. No attempt has been made to resuscitate the museum since its destruction by fire several years ago.

ONTARIO

Windsor. There is a special table for soldiers in the Windsor Public Library, with a shelf close by. The table is kept liberally supplied with stationery and is much used and appreciated by the men. Another small room, off the main shelf room, is kept for the use of girls and women who are working. The women of Windsor are devoting themselves to war work of various kinds, and it is a boon for them to have this quiet room where they may drop in at noon after lunch for half an hour. Miss Macrae, the librarian, notes the likes and dislikes of the girls, and when they come in from day to day they find the book they are reading or what they want ready beside their comfortable armchair.

QUEBEC

Montreal. An appropriation of \$1274.60 to establish reading rooms in a couple of the municipal buildings of municipalities lately annexed has been voted by the city council.

Foreign

ENGLAND

Bournemouth. The fourth Carnegie branch library was opened at Westbourne in May. The four branches were built out of an appropriation of £10,000, £4000 being spent for the Boscombe branch and £2000 for each of the others.

Cambridge. Univ. L. The 62nd annual report of the Library Syndicate, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1915, shows the effect of the war upon every phase of the library's activity. Accessions were 47,283, as against 59,019 in 1914. The shelf-run of books placed, the pages contained in the *Bulletin*, and the number of books borrowed are all from one-fifth to one-fourth less than before the war. The grant from the university was diminished by £2000. The total income for the year was £6409, and expenditures £5811, including £215 for insurance, £3669 for salaries and wages, £538 for book purchase and £531 for binding. Insurance against damage by hostile aircraft has been secured, and special precautions taken against fire. The depletion of the staff led to an order late in the year that for the

period of the war the library should be closed during the dinner hour, from 1 to 2 p.m., on each working day other than Saturday. The number of books borrowed from the library during the year was 22,894, as compared with 26,646 in 1914, and 30,118 in 1913.

Ipswich. The Carnegie trustees have offered a grant of £1500 for the erection of a library building on condition that a tax of "at least 1½d. be placed at the disposal of the library, and that the building be not made subject to municipal rates other than the water rate. At present the library and the museum share equally a rate of 1½d. in the pound."

London. The Commercial Intelligence branch of the Board of Trade, in rooms at Cheapside, has started a collection of trade catalogs—issued by "enemy" manufacturing firms to advertise their products. The catalogs are printed in almost every known language and cover an extraordinarily wide field. About 7000 volumes of all shapes and sizes have already been brought together in this collection.

SCOTLAND

Glasgow. A commercial library has, after three years' consideration, been opened in Glasgow. The opening function was performed Nov. 3, by the Lord Provost, Sir Thomas Dunlop, Bart., who took the opportunity to impress upon the hearers, especially from an educational point of view, the importance of placing information at the disposal of their commercial men. The library is situated in the center of the business area of the city, and contains directories, guides, consular and company reports, parliamentary and official publications, reports of chambers of commerce, year-books, standard works on commercial and industrial law, and trade and technical periodicals. A card index forms a guide to the contents of the collection, which includes general atlases and maps of the world, showing trade routes and distances by land and water, with large scale maps of cities and districts. Maps, colored to indicate the character of industrial centres and the products of manufacturing areas, are included. There is also printed information concerning local and national manufactures, and manufacturers and exporters are invited to supply information concerning their wares. In addition, any of the 10,000 publications issued by foreign firms and collected by the

commercial intelligence branch of the Board of Trade will, by the courtesy of the board, be made available on request.

GERMANY

In the November "Commerce reports" issued by the United States Commerce Department, Vice Consul H. E. Carlson describes a technical library which it is proposed to establish to aid German industry. According to a recent article in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* and an interview with a prominent librarian at Frankfort he writes, "Plans are being considered for the establishment of a general technical library at Frankfort on Main, to be open for public use. One of the leading city libraries has become interested in the project, and a beginning already has been made. It is said that the plan is unique among the cities of the German Empire. Technical libraries have existed previously, but they have not been open to the general public. Such libraries have been the property of scientific societies, technical associations, and the larger industrial concerns. The service rendered by these scattered collections was comparatively small, as it was limited to members of the respective organizations owning them. These were usually hampered by lack of means and lack of facilities for organizing and arranging to the best advantage. The plan now under way would combine these private and semi-private libraries and put them under the control of one of the established city libraries at Frankfort on Main. The library chosen for this purpose is the Freiherrliche Carl von Rothschild'sche Öffentliche Bibliothek. In addition to technical books it is stated that the chief technical magazines of Germany and of the technical world are to be placed at the disposal of the public. A special feature will be the department for patent publications. Not only will the important German patent publications be provided for the library, but an attempt will be made also to furnish as broad an international list as possible. The American *Official Gazette* is among those to be obtained. It is proposed that arrangements be made to co-operate with the patent office at Berlin, with the intention of simplifying the present regulations as to the examination of drawings and models. The plan has the support of the chief technical societies of Frankfort, including *Der Frankfurter Verein Deutscher Ingenieure* and *Der Frankfurter Verband Deutscher Diplom Ingenieure*."

LIBRARY WORK

Notes of developments in all branches of library activity, particularly as shown in current library literature

ADVERTISING—CIRCULAR LETTERS

With the co-operation and sanction of the board of library commissioners, the publicity bureau of the Chamber of Commerce of Council Bluffs, Ia., has sent letters to residents of all rural routes running out of Council Bluffs advising them that the privileges of the public library have been extended to rural-route residents on exactly the same terms as to citizens of Council Bluffs. Enclosed in each letter was an application card for library privileges, and the recipient in each case was asked to avail himself of the privileges of the library, with the compliments of the library board and the Chamber of Commerce. It is the belief of the publicity bureau and of the library board that many country people will be glad of the opportunity to have access to the public library.

ADVERTISING—POSTERS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The library in Worcester, Mass., has tried printing posters in Swedish and placing these in neighborhood stores. The posters tell what magazines, newspapers and books in the Swedish language may be found at the library, and have proved a useful method of advertising those institutions.

CHILDREN, WORK WITH

An item in the Springfield *Republican* of Nov. 18 called attention to a pleasant function which the City Library had inaugurated for the little children in one of the residence districts of the city. "The Forest Park branch library is to hold a 'pleasant hour' at the library this morning from 10 to 11 o'clock. The invitation is extended to all children of the Forest Park district who are not less than five nor more than nine years old. The library requests its guests to plan to be on hand promptly, but not to come too early, as the doors will not open till 10 o'clock. Each child must bring his or her card as a ticket of admission, and after the entertainment, he may use it to borrow one of the several hundred new books which that day are to be circulated for the first time. The library is holding this pleasant hour to give pleasure to the children and it asks each child to co-operate by quiet and orderly conduct outside as well as inside the library during the morning."

BUILDINGS—CLEANING AND CARE OF

The care of a large library building is no small matter. The summary of the various processes necessary to keep the St. Louis Public Library in proper condition are described in its 1916 report:

"Books are cleaned with a portable vacuum cleaner, mounted on a book-truck. The vacant spaces on the shelves are partly cleaned by the vacuum and are then washed to remove the oily dust which cannot be taken up with a vacuum cleaner. The glass floors of the stack-room are cleaned by frequent sweeping with wet sawdust and washing.

"Cork-tile floors are mopped once a week and scrubbed with an electric scrubbing machine every six weeks. This machine is also used on the marble and terrazzo floors frequently during the year. The entire floor surface of the building, amounting to about four acres, is swept with moist sawdust every day and mopped or scrubbed at least once a week.

"Odorless disinfectant is used daily where necessary. The furniture is dusted daily with cheese-cloth and sheep's-wool dusters. It is also washed and refinished when this becomes necessary. The indirect-lighting fixtures are cleaned every few weeks, while all other fixtures are cleaned and dusted several times a year.

"All the marble walls are washed at least once a year, the stair wainscot and lower walls on an average of six times a year. The decorated plaster walls are washed and re-starched every three years. The plain painted walls are repainted when necessary. The terrace paving is scrubbed frequently, and the front steps are scrubbed about once a month."

COUNTY LIBRARY WORK

In an interesting letter to this office, Lueva Montgomery, librarian of the Stinson Memorial Library, Anna, Ill., writes of the county extension work she has been doing in Union county.

"When I came to Anna in July, 1914, to organize and become librarian of the Stinson Memorial Library," she writes, "I was delighted to find that, by the terms of the will of Captain Robert B. Stinson, who bequeathed the endowment to the city of Anna, the library

was to be free to both city and county. The fact that the library is supported entirely by the endowment has enabled us to do county extension work that other libraries in Illinois are not able to do.

"Publicity thru the county papers, the county fair, and the teachers' institute brought many patrons from the surrounding villages and country, but far from the number that the library was capable of serving. So we determined to increase the use of the library by visiting a number of rural schools one day each week, and supplying the children there with books.

"Two routes were mapped out, each about twenty-five miles in length, with six schools on one and five on the other. Then I had made two bookcases, each to hold about 75 books, of such shape as to fit on the floor and back seat of a surrey. One day each week I drive over one of these routes, thus visiting each school once in two weeks. The bookcases are taken directly into the schoolroom and the children choose their books and have them charged just as they would at the main library.

"At the opening of the school, Sept. 1, I made the first trip and was much pleased with the reception I received from the children and the teachers. Each trip since has but increased my initial pleasure. The opportunity of studying the needs of the schools, and of putting into the hands of the children just the books they ought to have, are important features of the work. But more important is the fact that the reading habit is being formed by many boys and girls who would never have found their way to the main library.

"The outlook is promising. I have now made seven trips, have added 400 new borrowers and have circulated 1346 books. It was feared that the interest would die when the novelty had worn off after the first visit or two, but the interest increases with every visit, each trip bringing us from 15 to 40 new members. There was some prejudice to overcome, many of the fathers being afraid "there was some catch in it," but that is gradually working itself off, and many of the parents are now sending by the children for the books. It is not the intention to confine the work to the schools. Stops will be made at residences along the routes as soon as the school work is well organized.

"There is no estimating the far-reaching influence of the work. As one of the teachers said when I spoke to him of the number who were using the book-wagon, 'You do not know how many people are reading these books.'

Every book that my pupils take home is read by all the members of the family before it is returned."

DIRECTORIES

Building up directories as advertising medium. John Cotton Dana. Address before Philadelphia Convention A. A. C. of W., June 27. Printed in part in *Printers' Ink*, Je. 29, 1916. p. 33-36.

"As I have handled books for twenty-five years, and as my library has perhaps promoted the use of directories of all kinds by men of affairs more than any other library of any kind or any size ever did, I may be pardoned for daring to give directory advice.

"Your directories are all very much alike, both in contents and typography. . . . You are afraid to make a different kind of a directory lest you lose some of your customers . . . you are held down to routine by what we commonly call conservatism, but is in fact often plain dullness, lack of vision and especially of foresight and imagination." The important changes which have taken place during the last two decades in printing and in the means of transportation and communication have not affected the art of directory compilation, printing and publication so greatly as they should have. "I suggest that you appoint a committee of three, give them a reasonable appropriation, and ask them to investigate the subject of the compilation, the contents and the typographic style of directories in this and all other countries and bring to you recommendations based thereon." Answers might be found to questions like these:

- (1) Since up to a certain point the larger the page, the type being the same, the easier it is to consult a huge alphabetical list like a directory, should you, therefore, enlarge your pages?
- (2) In some countries the government aids instead of hindering the production of directories; why should not this country, thru the postal department, aid the directories?
- (3) Many persons would buy directories if persuaded of their value. Could you lend them to advantage at a small sum per day?
- (4) The business part of directories is of very great value and would be of still greater value if it were better edited. Would it pay to make it a more complete index of the city's many products?
- (5) A directory has one large folding map, difficult to handle and easily torn. Would it pay to cut up a second copy and bind it as part of the book itself? The increasing size of cities and the motor-car habit indicates that maps will be used more than ever before.
- (6) Elaborate directories

must pay, or those of Europe, like the Didot-Bottin of Paris and France, would not be produced. Can more be learned from their methods?

The *Directory Journal*, if generously supported, could afford to gather and study statistics on directories and methods of making them pay. In its office it should have an excellent library of information on the art of directory making, advertising and selling from all countries, and a great collection of directories.

Telephone directories are daily growing in size and number and completeness; the growth of trade directories has been prodigious in the past twenty years. The possibility of establishing profitable relations between the regular directories and these special ones should be considered.

"Put copies of the directory in the upper grammar grades of the school on condition that the teacher will give a series of lessons on the city based on the directory. It might be wise for this special purpose to bind several copies in parts, by subjects or even dividing up the main alphabet.

"Sell a directory to the library or even give one the first year. If you don't dare give a new one, give an old one. The second year the librarian must buy or be severely criticised by the taxpayers. Help all the larger libraries in the country, say 500 of them, to get directories a year old from other cities. . . . Every open collection of directories you can get established in this country—even if most of its volumes are a year old—will prove a never-resting teacher in the art of directory using and an ever-active promoter of understanding of their tremendous value."

EXTENSION WORK

One of the phases of the extension service of the Massachusetts Agricultural College in Amherst is the library extension work. The special aim of this work is to be of assistance and to co-operate with those libraries and communities in the state which are not over-supplied with books or book funds. The college will send out, upon request, small collections of books or "libraries" upon agriculture and related subjects to be circulated by and from the borrowing library. In selecting books to be sent out every endeavor will be made to send only the latest and best material, complying as far as possible with the expressed wish of the borrower. It is also planned to make up and lend, upon request, special libraries, *i. e.*, collections of books and bulletins on special subjects, such as harvesting and

marketing of fruit, poultry, farmers' co-operative societies, rural social betterment work, vegetable gardening, home economics, etc. It is hoped that a large number of people will be helped in this way, and while the library will doubtless receive calls from individuals for material, it will be the intention to make the village library the agency thru which the material will be circulated. For the present, at least, the borrowing library will be expected to pay transportation charges. Otherwise, there will not be any expense to libraries desiring material from the college library.

With the opening of four additional stations this fall, the Lincoln Library, Springfield, Ill., now has twelve stations for children and ten for adults scattered over the eight and three-fourths miles of territory. Thus, the 68,126 volumes in the library are easily available to the 57,720 inhabitants of the city. All but three of the stations are conducted with the co-operation of the public schools. Stations for the children are open during school hours. A teacher is appointed librarian and is given a period in the day's schedule for the issuing of books. The stations for adults are conducted in connection with the community center work carried on by the schools and are open one evening a week. The other three stations are located in factories and are under the supervision of the extension department of the Young Woman's Christian Association.

Children are good advertisers of their own stations, so little publicity work has been done for them. In order that the adult stations might be brought to the attention of the various communities, two lines of advertising were undertaken. Slips giving information as to the stations were enclosed in the pay envelopes of all factory employees. Immediately following the summer vacation period, posters were placed in prominent business houses and public buildings thruout the city. The text of the poster (size, 22 x 29 in.) was as follows:

A BIT OF VACATION ALL YEAR ROUND

In rest periods

READ

Stories of Travel

Adventure

Romance

Nature

History

LEARN HOW TO

Take photographs

Make a wireless set

Play golf

Crochet

THE LINCOLN LIBRARY

Has books for all tastes and needs

Main library 7th and Capitol Ave

(Hours and list of stations given)

FREE TO EVERYONE

Changes in the regular rules of the library have aided materially in extending its usefulness. The guarantor system has been replaced by that of requiring a name for reference only. The time of expiration of cards has been extended from two years to three. The number of books allowed on one card has been increased to five in the adult department and three in the children's room. The period for which books are issued has been lengthened to four weeks, excepting seven-day works of fiction, magazines, and high school reading list books.

FINANCIAL LIBRARIES

As an aid to the expansion of American investments in foreign fields, a special reference library, containing regular and special reports, is to be established in the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, Thirty-fourth and Spruce streets. The plan is the culmination of an idea suggested at the annual meeting of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, at Cincinnati, early in October, 1916. The foreign relations committee of the Investment Bankers' Association has notified banking firms thruout the country of the plan, asking them to subscribe funds for the maintenance of the library.

The Foreign Trade Bureau of the Commercial Museum, in announcing the library as an assured fact, said:

"The proposition to utilize the extensive facilities of the Commercial Museum to secure information regarding the finances of foreign governments, national, state and municipal, as well as of large public service corporations, met with unanimous approval at the meeting referred to. The report of the committee, headed by Barrett Wendell, Jr., of the Boston banking house of Lee, Higginson & Co., represented the establishment of a working arrangement with the Commercial Museum as the best and most practical means of securing authentic foreign financial reports.

"The remarkable growth of interest on the part of both dealers and the public in the securities of foreign nations caused the committee to think that the establishment of a library containing information relative to finances of governments, states and municipalities would be of great service.

"In the circular issued by the committee, the statement is made that the commercial library of the museum is without an equal in the United States, and probably in the world, in the completeness of its literature relating to the resources and industries of foreign countries, their commercial laws and regulations.

"The plan as proposed provides for the segregation of financial data into a special department. A systematic effort will be made to secure all special and regular reports obtainable on the finances of foreign countries, states and municipalities, large public utility corporations and similar organizations. This information will be filed and indexed for purposes of ready reference.

"There is nothing in this plan which precludes any large house originating foreign issues from sending its own statistician to use the material gathered in the library."

LIBRARIANS AND ASSISTANTS—HEALTH

More and more attention is being paid in libraries as in business houses to the comfort and health of the staff. The 1916 report of the St. Louis Public Library described in some detail the provision made for their comfort. Five rooms in the Central Library are intended and equipped for the sole use of the staff—two locker rooms, with toilets, a lunch-room, with kitchen, a rest-room, and a recreation room. The branches all have staff rooms, with facilities for rest and for heating water. During the winter months, afternoon tea is served in the lunch-room between 3.30 and 4.30 p. m., and each member of the staff who so desires is allowed ten minutes to partake of it.

In the Cleveland Public Library's report, likewise, mention is made of a new provision for the health of the library's workers. In the summer, by the permission of the Kinney & Levan Company, owners of the office building in which the library is located, a recreation court was prepared on the roof and opened for the use of the staff. It is about forty by one hundred and twenty feet, and is equipped for games. A smaller court, near the north end of the building, looking out over the lake, is a pleasant place to spend lunch and rest hours.

LIBRARIES—SMALL

What is called a "home-made" public library is owned and operated by the clubwomen of Lebanon, Kan. An article in the *Topeka Daily Capital* describing this library says that when the women discovered that more books were needed, and there was no money with which to buy them, they decided that every book already owned, outside of fiction, would have to do more work. The library had been cataloged according to titles and authors, but now the women went thru the volumes carefully, analyzing each. Since this has been

done, almost every book averages six trips out of the library where formerly it was used but once.

Another feature of this home-made library is the collection of scrapbooks made from clippings from current magazines. Each club member saves interesting articles from available periodicals, and when several articles on one subject have been collected these are mounted on sheets of white paper and bound in heavy brown paper. The library now has more than 400 of these scrapbooks, and they are being cataloged for circulation.

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARIES

"Municipal reference libraries are of two main classes," writes A. L. Bostwick in the 1916 report of the St. Louis Public Library. "The first includes libraries of general character for the use of city officials and employees. These, in addition to purely municipal reference work, render very much the same service to city employees as a general public library renders to the public at large. The second class, in which our own Municipal Reference branch belongs, includes highly specialized collections used largely by the librarian himself in compiling reports and summaries for those connected with or interested in municipal affairs. In recent months there has been a certain amount of discussion as to which type of municipal reference library is the better. The first class of library is much more expensive, as it must contain, for example, a large collection of periodicals and other material which one would expect to find only in a general reading room. The second class, which would seem to be most nearly related to what the National Municipal League originally had in mind, is modeled on the legislative reference idea, and is intended only to supply specialized information. It caters principally to city officials, civic and business organizations, and individuals in connection with their official, municipal and civic duties. There is no reason, of course, why a municipal reference library should not belong to both classes, and in the case of St. Louis it is hardly more than a matter of expense.

"In the opinion of the branch librarian, however, the present specialized work is by far the most important phase of municipal reference library activity. In St. Louis many important measures for the benefit of the city have been aided by the presentation of impartial reports based on data collected by the library. Work of this sort is in line with what the originators of the legislative reference idea had in mind."

READING

A porch reading plan which has been tried with success during several summers in Chatham, N. J., might be tried with equal success during the winter if the place of reading were merely changed from the porch to the parlor. The idea is simply to invite the community to come and let each individual contribute 10 cents for each visit or \$1 for the entire series of readings. The proceeds are used for the purchase of library books. In Chatham so much enthusiasm has been aroused by the porch readings, which have been held for some five or six summers, that there is now a desire for a library building. At present the library is housed in the Town Hall.

Bibliographical Notes

The American Union Against Militarism (641 Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.) has issued two mimeographed bulletins of value. In no. 63, the question of American militarism in Santo Domingo is briefly discussed, while no. 64 is a 4-page list of references compiled in the Library of Congress on compulsory military service.

The new "Children's catalog" of the H. W. Wilson Co. was published the last of November. The catalog was compiled by Corinne Bacon and is published in two forms—a 1000-title edition at \$2, and a 2000-title edition at \$4. The catalogs are based on fifty-four selected library lists and special bulletins, the A. L. A. *Booklist* and Catalog Supplement of 1911, and careful examination was made of many of the books. These catalogs are also issued in paper covers, printed on light-weight paper for quantity use. The paper-covered copies are for the exclusive use of those having previously purchased at least one copy of the cloth-bound edition and are sold in lots of ten or more at the price of 15 cents per copy for the 1000-title edition and 25 cents per copy for the 2000-title edition.

"A handbook to county bibliography," a bibliography relating to the counties and towns of Great Britain and Ireland, has been compiled and is to be published soon by Arthur L. Humphreys, of 187 Piccadilly, London, W. Four appendices, dealing with auxiliary bibliographies and lists for England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, omit all the well-known and easily accessible handbooks, and limit themselves to the less-known bibliographies and lists which are of value to students of local history. The counties are arranged in one alphabet, each county being treated separately. An author and subject index is provided.

A series of pamphlets are being issued by the British Home Office and Board of Trade on the substitution of women in industry for enlisted men. This series is issued to make available for manufacturers throughout Great Britain the fullest information as to the processes in which, and the methods by which, temporary substitution of women is already being carried out in their trade. The industries dealt with include china and earthenware, pottery, India rubber, paints and varnishes, wool, paper, cotton, hosiery, woodworking, leather tanning and carrying, soap and candles, gloves, clothing, sugar refining, chemical industries, tobacco, silver and electro plate, etc.

RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES FOR SPECIAL CLASSES

CHILDREN

Bacon, Corinne, comp. Children's catalog of one thousand books; a guide to the best reading boys and girls . . . White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co., 1916. 163 p. \$2; special pap. purchased in quantity, 25 c. (Standard catalog series.)

Bacon, Corinne, comp. Children's catalog of two thousand books; a guide to the best reading for boys and girls . . . White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co., 1916. 332 p. \$4; special pap. purchased in quantity, 25 c. (Standard catalog series.)

MOTHERS

New Orleans Public Library. List of non-fiction and fiction for mothers. (In *New Orleans P. L. Bull.*, July-Sept., 1916. p. 44-45.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Church Library Association. List of books recommended for Sunday school and parish libraries. Cambridge, Mass.: Church Library Assn. 10 p.

SUBJECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

AGRICULTURE

Arnold, Joseph A., ed. List of publications issued [by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture] since July 1, 1913 (revised to Apr. 30, 1916). Washington, D. C.: Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. 85 p.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Guthrie, Anna Lorraine. Early American literature; a study outline. H. W. Wilson Co., 1916. 8 p. bibl. 25 c. (Study outline series.)

AMERICANA

Americana; autographs, first editions, Lincolniana. New York: Alexander M. Brown, Inc., 1916. 39 p. bibl. (Catalogue no. 15. 826 items.)

Americana curiosa et Quakeriana. Philadelphia: Franklin Bookshop, 1916. 55 p. (Catalog no. 35, season 1916-1917. 221 items.)

Book catalogue; Americana, Civil War, Indians and the West. Portland, Me.: A. J. Huston, 1916. 35 p. (No. 24. 960 items.)

Catalogue: part v; Americana of the extensive private library of the late John B. Pearce. Boston: C. F. Libbey & Co., 1916. 119 p. (1681 items.)

Collection of books, pamphlets, etc., on the West, South, Indians, New England and Middle States. New York: Albert A. Bieber, 1916. 34 p. (Bieber's Americana collections, no. 6. 554 items.)

Interesting and rare books; scarce Americana. Chicago: Morris Book Shop, 1916. 36 p. (No. 70. 421 items.)

Rare books . . . relating to American history. New York: Scott & O'Shaughnessy, Inc., 1916. 64 p. (No. 28—1916. 193 items.)

BACTERIOLOGY

Hiss, Philip Hanson, Jr., and Zinsser, Hans. A text-book of bacteriology; a practical treatise for

students and practitioners of medicine. Appleton, 1916. bibl. \$3.75 n.

BIRDS

Ladd, Niel Morrow. How to make friends with birds. Doubleday, Page, 1916. 3 p. bibl. \$1 n. bxd.; \$1.25 n. bxd.

CANADA—HISTORY

Riddell, Walter Alexander. The rise of ecclesiastical control in Quebec. Longmans, 1916. 7 p. bibl. \$1.75 n. (Columbia Univ. studies in history, economics and public law.)

CATTLE—DISEASES

Marsh, Charles Dwight, and others. Larkspur poisoning of live stock. Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. 4 p. bibl. (U. S. Dept. of Agric. Bull. 365.)

CHARLES XII (OR SWEDEN)

Gade, John Allyne. Charles the Twelfth, King of Sweden. Houghton Mifflin, 1916. 3 p. bibl. \$3 n.

CHEMISTRY

Peet, Bert W. Laboratory experiments in chemistry. Ann Arbor, Mich.: G. Wahr, 1916. 5 p. bibl. 60 c.

CHILD LABOR

Meyer, H. H. B., and Thompson, Laura A. comps. List of references on child labor. Washington, D. C.: Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. 161 p. (U. S. Dept. of Labor—Children's Bureau. Industrial series no. 3; Bureau publ. no. 18.)

CIVICS

Boynton, Frank David. School civics; an outline of the origin and development of political institutions in the United States. Ginn, 1916. 4 p. bibl. \$1.12.

CONSTITUTION (U. S.)

Baker, Fred Abbott. The fundamental law of American constitution. Washington, D. C.: J. Byrne & Co., 1916. bibl. \$3.75.

COOK-BOOKS

Foreign cook-books; with a few books on gastronomy. (In *Mo. Bull. of the Carnegie L. of Pittsburgh*, N. 1916. p. 476-478.)

CORONATION CEREMONIES

Woolley, Reginald Maxwell. Coronation rites. Putnam, 1916. 6 p. bibl. \$1.50 n. (Cambridge liturgical handbooks.)

CRIMINOLOGY

List of non-fiction and fiction on crime and its detection. (In *New Orleans P. L. Bull.*, July-Sept., 1916. p. 45-48.)

CURIKSHANKIANA

Cruikshankiana. New York: Robert H. Dodd, 1916. 48 p. bibl. (No. 22. D., 1916.)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY (U. S.)

Robinson, William Alexander. Jeffersonian democracy in New England. Yale Univ., 1916. 7 p. bibl. (Yale historical publs., miscellany.)

DRAMA

Creizenach, Wilhelm. The English drama in the age of Shakespeare. Lippincott, 1916. 3 p. bibl. \$4.50 n.

Pepys, Samuel. Pepys on the Restoration stage. Yale Univ., 1916. 9 p. bibl. \$3 n.

EDUCATION

Dynes, Sarah Ann. Socializing the child. Boston: Silver, Burdett, 1916. 13 p. bibl. \$1.

Klapffer, Paul. Teaching children to read. Appleton, 1916. bibl. \$1.25 n.

Mark, Harry Thistleton. Modern views on education. Baltimore: Warwick & York, 1916. 5 p. bibl. 40 c. (Nation's library.)

EUROPE—HISTORY

Collier, Theodore Frelinghuysen. A syllabus of the history of mediaeval Europe from the Germanic invasions to the Reformation. Providence, R. I.: Kenanore Press, 1916. 3 p. bibl. 60 c.

Grant, Madison. The passing of the great race; or, the racial basis of European history. Scribner, 1916. 4 p. bibl. \$2 n.

EUROPEAN WAR

The European War; some works recently added to the library. (In *Bull. of the N. Y. P. L.*, N. 1916. p. 845-857.)

FAIRY TALES

Kreedy, Laura F. A study of fairy tales. Houghton Mifflin, 1916. bibls. 75 c. n.

FERTILIZERS

Russell, Edward John. Manuring for higher crop production. Putnam, 1916. bibls. 90 c. n.

FRANKLIN, BENJAMIN

Franklin, Benjamin. Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. Holt, 1916. 4 p. bibl. \$2 n.

GERMAN LITERATURE

Betz, Gottlieb. Die deutsch-amerikanische patriotische lyrik der achtundvierziger und ihre historische grundlage. New York: G. E. Stechert, 1916. 3 p. bibl. \$1.50 n. (Americana Germania.)

GREAT BRITAIN—LOCAL HISTORY

Humphreys, Arthur L. A handbook to county bibliography; being a bibliography of bibliographies relating to the counties and towns of Great Britain and Ireland. London, W.: Arthur L. Humphreys, 187 Piccadilly. 15s.

HISTORY—TEACHING OF

Whitney, Mary Alice. A bibliography of history stories for the grades. (In *Teaching*, O., 15, 1916. Vol. II, no. 15. p. 26-28.)

HYGIENE

Rosenau, Milton Joseph, and others. Preventive medicine and hygiene. Appleton, 1916. bibls. \$6. School nurse: a selected bibliography. 2 p. (In *Bull. of the Russell Sage Foundation Library*, D., 1916, no. 20.)

INDIANA

Bibliography; county histories. (In *Bull. of the Ind. State L.*, S., 1916, vol. XI, no. 3. p. 17-26.)

INSECTS

Crittenden, Frank Hurlbut. Papers on insects affecting stored products. Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. bibls. (U. S. Dept. of Agric. Bull. 96.)

LABOR

List of non-fiction and fiction on labor. (In *New Orleans P. L. Bull.*, July-Sept., 1916. p. 49-51.)

LANGUAGES—TEACHING OF

Krause, Carl Albert. The direct method in modern languages. Scribner, 1916. bibls. 75 c. n.

LAW

Library Co. of the Baltimore Bar. Subject index of the books in the library. Baltimore: the author, 1916. \$3.75 n.

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

Whitlock, Brand. Abraham Lincoln. Small, Maynard, 1916. 4 p. bibl. \$1 n.

LUZ Y CABALLERO, JOSE DE LA

Figarola-Caneda, Domingo. Bibliografia de Luz y Caballero, a. ed., rev. and enl. Havana: Imprenta "El Siglo XX" de Aurelio Miranda, 1916. 272 p.

MATHEMATICS

Ford, Walter Burton. Studies on divergent series and summability. Macmillan, 1916. 11 p. bibl. \$2.50 n. (Univ. of Michigan studies.)

MUSIC

Pratt, Waldo Selden. Musical ministries in the church. New York: G. Schirmer, 1916. 11 p. bibl. \$1.25 n.

MUSIC—TEACHING OF

Tapper, Thomas. The music supervisor; his training, influence and opportunity. Boston: Dutton, 1916. 5 p. bibl. \$1.25.

NATURAL HISTORY

A catalogue of books on natural history. Part III. London: Bernard Quaritch. 58 p. (No. 346. 714 items.)

OCCUPATIONS

Oliver, Sir Thomas. Occupations from the social, hygienic and medical points of view. Putnam, 1916. bibls. \$1.80 n. (Cambridge public health series.)

ORIENT

Morice's oriental catalogue. London: Eugène L. Morice, 1916. 87 p. (No. 27, winter, 1916-1917. 1146 items.)

PAGEANTS

Davis, Carolina Hill, comp. Pageants in Great Britain and the United States; a list of references. Bibliography presented for graduation, Library School of the New York Public Library. New York Public Library, 1916. 43 p.

PATHOLOGY, PLANT

Wetzel, H. H., and others. Laboratory outlines in plant pathology. Ithaca, N. Y.: Cornell Cooperative Soc., agts., 1916. bibls. \$1.25.

PENSIONS—FOR TEACHERS

Ryan, W. Carson, Jr., and King, Roberta. State pension systems for public-school teachers. Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. 3 p. bibl. (U. S. Dept. of the Interior.—Bur. of Educ. Bull., 1916, no. 14.)

PHILOSOPHY

Whittaker, Edmund Taylor, and Watson, George Neville. A course of modern analysis. Putnam, 1916. 4 p. bibl. \$4.50 n.

PSYCHOLOGY

Washburn, Margaret Floy. Movement and mental imagery. Houghton Mifflin, 1916. 11 p. bibl. (Vassar semi-centennial series.)

PSYCHOLOGY—ANIMAL

Holmes, Samuel Jackson. Studies in animal behavior. Boston: Badger, 1916. bibls. \$2.50 n.

RAILROADS—VALUATION OF

Bureau of Railway Economics, comp. List of references on valuation of steam railways. (In *Bull. of the Amer. Railway Engineering Assn.*, O., 1916, vol. 18, no. 190. p. 1-145.)

RELIGION

Liturgical and theological books. Tunbridge Wells, Eng.: P. M. Barnard, 1916. 46 p. (No. 110. 579 items.)

Youtz, Herbert Alden. The enlarging conception of God. Macmillan, 1916. bibls. 50 c. (Macmillan's standard library.)

SOCIALISM

Snowden, Philip. Socialism and syndicalism. Baltimore: Warwick & York, 1916. 3 p. bibl. 40 c. (Nation's library.)

SOUTH AMERICA—HISTORY

Daniels, Margarette. Makers of South America. New York: Miss. Educ. Move. of U. S. and Canada, 1916. 4 p. bibl. 60 c.

STEEL

Harbord, Frank William, and Hall, J. W. The metallurgy of steel. Lippincott, 1916. bibls. \$12.50 n. (Griffin's metallurgical series.)

TECHNOLOGY

Scientific and technical reference books. (In *In Mo. Bull. of the Carnegie L. of Pittsburgh*, N., 1916. p. 520-528.)

Technical books; books on civil engineering, chemistry and chemical technology, electricity, mechanical engineering, mathematics and related subjects. (In *Opportunity*, Ap., 1916. Vol. I, no. 10. 4 p.)

TRANSCENDENTALISM

Girard, William. Du transcendentalisme considéré essentiellement dans sa définition et ses origines françaises. Berkeley, Cal.: Univ. of Cal., 1916. 6 p. bibl. \$1.50. (Publis. in modern philology.)

UNITED STATES—HISTORY

Morris, C. School history of the United States of America. Lippincott, 1916. bibls. 90 c.

UNITED STATES—NAVY

Clark, Capt. George Ramsey, and others. A short history of the United States Navy. Lippincott, 1916. 5 p. bibl. \$3 n.

UNIVERSITIES

Rider, Harry A. Universities and public service: a bibliography, with special references to problems, field work, and community duties of urban universities. (In *University training for public service*; a report. . . Washington: Gov. Prtg. Off., 1916. p. 81-94. Dept. of the Int.—Bur. of Educ. Bull., 1916, no. 30.)

VENereal DISEASES

Hühner, Max. A practical treatise on disorders of the sexual function in the male and female. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co. 6 p. bibl. \$3 n.

VETERINARY MEDICINE

Moore, Veranus Alva. The pathology and differential diagnosis of infectious diseases of animals. Macmillan, 1916. bibl. \$4 n.

VOCATIONS

Des Moines Public Library. Choosing a career; a list of a few of the most useful books on vocational guidance. 14 p.

ZOOLOGY

Van Cleave, Harley Jones. Laboratory directions for an elementary course in general zoology. Urbana, Ill.: Llyode's Univ. Store, 1916. 72 p.

The Open Round Table

VERTICAL FILES

A correspondent asks:

Which is the more popular intermediate size between the standard card-size vertical file and the standard letter file, 4 inches x 6 inches or 5 inches by 8 inches—"popular," as evidenced by extent of use or comparative volume of sales?

BOOKS ON COUNTRY LIFE

Editor Library Journal:

One of the questions rather frequently asked of us here at this library is somewhat like the following:

"Can you advise us as to thirty or forty of the best books on country life, the same not to exceed more than forty or fifty dollars?"

We have at various times worked up lists which have seemed to be of some help, but in the hope that we could work up a list worthy of circulation, we have compiled the list which I enclose herewith:

LIST OF BOOKS ON COUNTRY LIFE

Anderson, W. L.	The Country Town.	Doubleday, 1908.	\$1.10
Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.	Country Life Number, October, 1912.	1.00	
Bailey, L. H.	The Country Life Movement in the United States.	Macmillan, 1911.	1.25
Bailey, L. H.	The Farm and Garden Rule-book.	Macmillan, 1911.	2.00
Buell, J.	One Woman's Work for Farm Women.	Whitcomb, 1908.	.50
Butterfield, K. L.	Chapters in Rural Progress.	Univ. of Chicago Press, 1908.	1.00
Butterfield, K. L.	Country Church and Rural Problem.	Univ. of Chicago Press, 1911.	1.00
Bryan, G. S.	Poems of Country Life.	Sturgis, 1912.	1.00
Burroughs, John.	Songs of Nature.	Doubleday, 1910.	1.50
Carver, T. N.	Principles of Rural Economics.	Ginn, 1911.	1.30
Carney, Mabel.	Country Life and the Country School.	Row, 1912.	1.25
Cromwell, A. D.	Agriculture and Life.	Lippincott, 1915.	1.50
Cubberley, E. P.	Rural Life and Education.	Houghton, 1914.	1.50
Curtis, H. S.	Play and Recreation for the Open Country.	Ginn, 1914.	1.25
Eggleston and Bruere.	Work of the Rural School.	Harper, 1913.	1.00
Farwell, P. T.	Village Improvement.	Sturgis, 1913.	1.00

Field, Jessie.	The Corn Lady.	Flanagan, 1911.	\$1.50
Field and Nearing.	Community Civics.	Macmillan, 1916.	.60
Fiske, C. W.	Challenge of the Country.	Association Press, 1912.	.75
Frost, Robert.	North of Boston.	Holt, 1915.	1.25
Gill and Pinchot.	The Country Church.	Macmillan, 1913.	1.25
Gillette, J. M.	Constructive Rural Sociology.	Sturgis, 1913.	1.75
Green, J. B.	Law for the American Farmer.	Macmillan, 1911.	1.50
Hall and Betts.	Better Rural Schools.	Bobbs-Merrill, 1914.	1.25
Hart, J. K.	Educational Resources of Village and Rural Communities.	Macmillan, 1913.	1.00
Herrick and Ingalls.	Rural Credits, Land and Co-operative.	Appleton, 1914.	2.00
Hopkins, C. G.	The Story of the Soil.	Ginn, 1910.	1.75
McKeever, Wm. A.	Farm Boys and Girls.	Macmillan, 1912.	1.50
Myrick, Herbert.	Federal Farm Loan System.	Judd, 1916.	1.00
Nourse, E. G.	Agricultural Economics.	Univ. of Chicago Press, 1916.	2.75
Ogden, H. N.	Rural Hygiene.	Macmillan, 1911.	1.50
Plunkett, Sir Horace.	The Rural Life Problem of the United States.	Macmillan, 1910.	1.25
Powell, G. H.	Co-operation in Agriculture.	Macmillan, 1913.	1.50
Quick, Herbert.	The Brown Mouse.	Bobbs-Merrill, 1915.	1.25
Rural Manhood.	Volume 1, 1910 to date.	Association Press, N. Y.	10.50
United States Commission on Country Life.	Report.	Sturgis, 1911.	1.00
Warren, C. F.	Farm Management.	Macmillan, 1913.	1.25
Weld, L. D. H.	Marketing of Farm Products.	Macmillan, 1916.	1.50
Wilson, W. H.	The Church of the Open Country.	N. Y. Missionary Education Movement in U. S. and Canada, 1911.	1.75

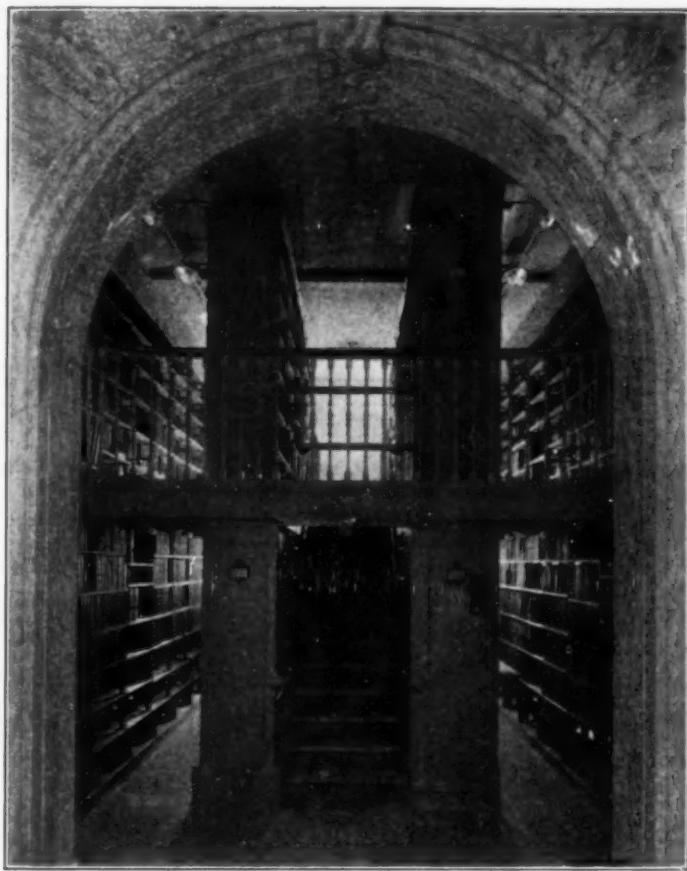
It has been our desire in working up this list to include one or two books at least on the various interests of country life. You will notice that we have included books on poetry and fiction, as well as those on the country church and the rural school. We have also included books on the economics and finances of country life, as well as books on play and recreation, farm boys and girls and the marketing of farm products. I hope to send you shortly a list dealing with the purely agricultural subjects, such as fruit growing, poultry culture, animal industry and farm products. In both cases the difficulty in selecting the best books is equally great. Our endeavor, however, is to select those books which stand out as being among the best recent and reliable books which have come to our attention.

CHARLES R. GREEN, Librarian.

Massachusetts Agricultural College,
Amherst, Mass.

Library Calendar

- Jan. 8, 1917. Pennsylvania Library Club.
Mar. 2-3, 1917. New Jersey Library Association, Pennsylvania Library Club. Joint meeting, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, N. J.



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- B The European War, 48 pp. (January, 1916), 38 cents.
- C History, Geography, Anthropology, and Folk-lore, 32 pp. (April, 1916), 38 cents.
- D Sports and Games, 8 pp. (December, 1915), 13 cents.
- E Economic and Political Sciences, Law, 28 pp. (April, 1916), 25 cents.
- F Education, 16 pp. (March, 1916), 25 cents.
- G Fine Arts and Archaeology, 34 pp. (Second Edition, May, 1916), 38 cents.
- H Music, 12 pp. (February, 1916), 13 cents.
- I Language and Literature, 34 pp. (March, 1916), 38 cents.
- J Science and Technology, 80 pp. (February, 1916), 63 cents.
- K Preventive Medicine and Hygiene, 14 pp. (November, 1915), 13 cents.

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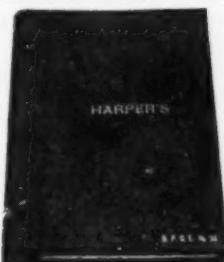
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